

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 2nd August 1884.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	700	22nd July 1884.
2	"Tripurá Vártavaha"	Comillah ...	.....
3	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
4	"Alok"	Calcutta ...	.....	25th ditto.
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto ...	700	28th ditto.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	102	25th ditto.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	12,000	26th ditto.
8	"Bártábaha"	Pubna ...	.....
9	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal ...	450	
10	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	625	22nd ditto.
11	"Bardwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	296	22nd ditto.
12	"Bikrampore Patriká"	Dacca ...	756	
13	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	21st ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca ...	425	27th ditto.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	800	25th ditto.
16	"Grámvartá Prakáshiká"	Comercolly ...	247	26th ditto.
17	"Halisahar Prakáshiká"	Calcutta ...	.....
18	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye ..	200	23rd ditto.
19	"Játiya Suhríd"	Calcutta ...	700	
20	"Medini"	Midnapore ...	500	24th ditto.
21	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore ...	437	23rd ditto.
22	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....	18th ditto.
23	"Navavibhákár"	Calcutta ...	850	28th ditto.
24	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	440	20th ditto.
25	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	900	
26	"Prántavási"	Chittagong ...	600	
27	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	600	18th ditto.
28	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beauleah ...	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakinia, Rungpore ...	220	24th ditto.
30	"Sádharani"	Calcutta ...	500	27th ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Ditto ...	500	30th ditto.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	1,500	28th ditto.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	26th ditto.
34	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	345	
35	"Shakti"	Calcutta ...	.....
36	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	1,000	28th ditto,
37	"Sulabha Samáchar"	Calcutta ...	3,000	5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th July 1884.
38	"Surabhi"	Ditto ...	700	28th July 1884.
39	"Udbodhan"	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik Vártá"	Calcutta ...	450	
41	"Samvád Prabhákár"	Ditto ...	225	25th to 30th July 1884.
42	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	28th to 31st July and 1st August 1884.
43	"Samachár Chandriká"	Ditto ...	625	25th and 28th to 31st July 1884.
44	"Banga Vidya Prakáshiká"	Ditto ...	520	25th to 29th & 31st July 1884.
45	"Prabháti"	Ditto ...	1,000	26th to 28th, 30th & 31st July 1884.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	26th July 1884.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....	24th ditto.
48	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	17th and 24th July 1884.
49	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	500	28th July 1884.
50	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	300	26th ditto.
51	"Hindi Samáchar"	Bhagulpore ...	700	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Jám-Jahan-numá"	Calcutta ...	250	25th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	100	
54	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar ...	250	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
55	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
56	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ...	.....
57	"Assam News"	Ditto ...	450	23rd June 1884.
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
58	"Utkal Dipika"	Cuttack ...	250	12th July 1884.
59	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	200	15th ditto.
60	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto ...	116	10th ditto.
<i>Monthly.</i>				
61	"Sebaka"	Cuttack ...	200	
62	"Taraka"	Midnapore ...	.....
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
63	"Kshatriya Patrika"	Patna ...	400	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
64	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ...	.....

POLITICAL.

The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 22nd July, says that a brave prince like Holkar could have, had he pleased, been easily avenged upon the English for the humiliation

BHARAT MIHIR,
July 22nd, 1884.

Holkar and the *Pioneer*.

of his family by taking the leadership of the rebels when the mutiny broke out. Had he done so, it would not have been easy to quell the mutineers. But instead of acting treacherously in this way, Holkar restored peace in his own State, showed extraordinary skill in defending the Residency, and saved the lives of Englishmen and Englishwomen by taking them to his own palace. While Colonel Durand fled like a coward for his life, Holkar acted like a true hero. This display of heroism by Holkar, which presents such a striking contrast to the cowardly behaviour of Colonel Durand, has made narrow-hearted Englishmen his enemies. Lord Canning did not think Holkar guilty. Lord Elphinstone and noble-hearted Malcolm knew that he was innocent and they wrote in his favour. Kaye, the historian of the Sepoy Mutiny, has said that Holkar has been sacrificed to the reputation of Colonel Durand. The *Pioneer* is possessed of no common slyness. It is from this time preparing the way for future attacks upon the would-be Holkar. It is making all sorts of accusations against Holkar's eldest son. It is a fortunate circumstance that Lord Ripon is now Viceroy. Nobody apprehends any injustice during his administration.

2. The *Hindu Janjika*, of the 23rd July, says that ungratefulness is a characteristic feature of the English

HINDU JANJIKÁ,
July 23rd, 1884.

Maharajah Holkar.

nation. Assistant Magistrates learn their work from the omlah and then say "Damn them, I know all." Those that help the English in the time of their need are sure to receive ill-treatment at their hands. Maharajah Holkar saved the lives of several Englishmen at some risk when Colonel Durand fled away from Indore as a coward. But to save his own reputation Colonel Durand slandered Holkar, and the anti-native Europeans are now making a great noise in connection with the affairs of this prince.

3. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 24th July, says that the native princes are a source of great strength to the British Empire, but the officers of Govern-

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
July 24th, 1884.

Maharajah Holkar.

ment never treat them respectfully. The Residents insult them and put them to great difficulty. The treatment of the Gaekwar of Baroda, of the Maharajah of Kolhapore, of the Maharajah of Cashmere, and of Rajah Harish Chandra is well known. Maharajah Holkar has recently incurred the displeasure of the English.

4. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 28th July, says that Englishmen are ruling both England and India, but the consti-

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
July 28th, 1884.

The English and the Indian constitution.

tution of Government in England is quite different from that in India. Englishmen show unrivalled love of freedom and liberality in their own country, but they destroy the freedom of other countries. Their actions at home are quite different from their actions in India.

5. The *Prabhāti*, of the 28th July, says that the Anglo-Indian newspapers are very hostile to the native princes.

PRABHATI,
July 28th, 1884.

Holkar and the Maharajah of Cashmere.

One day the *Pioneer* accuses Holkar of oppressions, another day the *Englishman* laments the wretched condition of Cashmere. Ungrateful Englishmen are trying to ruin those on the strong foundation of whose support the British Empire rests and who saved the English from destruction in the time of danger. Both Holkar and the Maharajah of Cashmere rendered the British Government memorable services during the mutiny, but ungrateful Englishmen have been trying to annex Cashmere for many years past. The Anglo-Indian newspapers instigated Lord Lytton to annex Cashmere by describing its wretched condition under native

rule, but God has been protecting the Maharajah of Cashmere. The writer says that it is strange that Englishmen alone, and not the inhabitants of Cashmere, complain of the oppressions of the Maharajah.

SURABHI,
July 28th, 1884.

England and Russia.

6. The *Surabhi*, of the 28th July, believes that the settling of the Afghan boundary will ultimately lead to a war with Russia. Russia will now consent to the settling of the boundary, but she will cross it when convenient, consequently war will break out between the two powers.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
July 28th, 1884.

Russia in Central Asia.

7. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 28th July, refers to a rumour that Russia is seeking to obtain a place named Kella-Nadir from the Shah of Persia, and that Russian merchants have already obtained admission into Persia. There can be no doubt that the relations between Russia and Persia are gradually becoming closer and closer. If the present friendship continues, it will be comparatively easy for Russia to enter Herat, which was formerly under Persian rule. The inhabitants of Herat will on the first opportunity seek to revert to Persian rule.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

8. The same paper says that the high-handed manner in which Amir Abdur Rahman is governing Afghanistan is likely to shortly lead to the subjugation of the Afghans or to a revolt of that people. The present power of the Amir is doubtless due to the circumstance that his good-will is now being courted by Russians on the one side and the English on the other.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

PRATIKAR,
July 18th, 1884.

The apprehension of famine.

9. The *Pratikár*, of the 18th July, is afraid that there will be famine in Bengal this year. The insufficiency of rain has destroyed the áus crop, while the prospects of the amun crop are exceedingly bad. Great anxiety is felt both in Bombay and in Bengal as to the prospects of food-grains.

PRATIKAR.

10. The same paper says that of all departments of Government people have the least faith in the Public Works Department. In this department, people educated in cold countries come to India on handsome salaries to make experiments at an immense cost to the people. If their scheme proves unsuccessful, they lay the whole blame on the shoulders of their subordinates and boast of their professional knowledge.

PRATIKAR.

11. The same paper says that these are very happy days for the Public Works Department. The roads have been vested either in the Municipalities or in Road Committees. The officers of Public Works Department have nothing to do, but they get their full pay. One Assistant Engineer can do all the work of the department at Moorshedabad, but there is a whole engineering staff presided over by an Executive Engineer.

PRATIKAR.

12. The same paper says that the English are blind to the faults of their countrymen and are incapable of doing justice. From the Lieutenant-Governor to the commonest Eurasian all are of one mind. The police is not behind them in anything. People should try to retire into the forests after giving the English a hearty vote of thanks for their sense of justice. At any moment they can reimpose the Press Act and compel the editor to live in a white-washed room in a jail. The English are the rulers, they can do anything. The law is created by them. It is written in their own language and they only can interpret it properly. Where is the man that can object to their interpretation of the law? Otherwise can the English Magistrate do just as he pleases? Can the Superintendent of Police do injustice to the people, abuse them and assault them? The blood of the native does not become

not so readily. Had the English been so highhanded in Ireland, who can tell how many corpses of Magistrates, Judges, and police officers would have floated on the waves of the sea? The English ruin the ryots as indigo-planters and as tea-planters they kill the coolies. It is a shameful thing for the English. The writer then proceeds to compare the English with Seraj-ud-dowla, and says that the reign of the latter was much better than that of the English. The English sent Baboo Surendronath to jail at Calcutta and Rajnath at Dacca. They dethroned Rajah Harish Chandra, put Nafar Baboo to trouble at Kishnagore. The coolie girls in Assam and Bengalis in Behar feel oppression at the hands of the English most keenly, and the curtain should drop before their doings at Moorshedabad.

13. The *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 19th July, disapproves the proposal of levying octroi duties in Calcutta. The

SULABH SAMACHAR,
July 19th, 1884.

Octroi duties for Calcutta.

collection of octroi duties is sure to be attended with much oppression, especially as the Calcutta Police, in whose hands the work of the collection will in a great measure be entrusted, is not very remarkable for its courtesy. The writer's own experience of the working of the octroi system in the towns of the North-Western Provinces goes to show that strangers are greatly harassed, nay a regular search is made into the bundles they carry by those entrusted with the collection of the duty before their entrance into the town.

14. The *Paridarshak*, of the 20th July, is very sorry to note that the land celebrated for the justice of Yudhisthira and Ram Chandra is being defiled by the

PARIDARSHAK,
July 20th, 1884.

Anglo-Indian oppression.

injustice of Anglo-Indians. An enumeration of the instances of their oppression will tire even the god Panchánan with his five mouths. The writer brings forward the cases of Messrs. Webb, Francis, Byrne, Marriot and Sgardelli which have recently attracted public attention as instances of these oppressions, and says that in cases in which Europeans and natives are opposing parties, the Europeans are sure to come off victorious.

15. The same paper hears that Mr. Howard of Madras elects to be

PARIDARSHAK.

Native judicial officers and Europeans.

tried by a native Magistrate. This is a new state of things. Native judicial officers should at this time be strictly impartial. They should not show leaning towards any party, and especially towards Europeans. But the writer is sorry that Baboo Syam Kisore Sen, a pleader of the Judge's Court, now officiating as one of the Munsifs of Sylhet, has shown gross partiality for a European, against whom a suit was instituted for the recovery of house-rent. The plaintiff's men made an affidavit to the effect that the defendant held a temporary appointment at Sylhet, and that he would leave the place the next morning, so a summons was issued against him on that very day and an application made for attaching his property. The defendant tore out the summons, but subsequently came to the Munsiff's office and asked to have more time granted to him. The Munsiff asked him to apply for time, but he pleaded that there was no time for it. The Munsiff then asked him to sign a blank paper and leave it at the Court. At 9 o'clock at night, when the Judge's court was closed, the Munsiff rejected the affidavit. Baboo Shyam Kisore has become very unpopular for showing leaning towards a European defendant.

16. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 21st July, says that empires can be established by brute force, but they cannot be maintained by it. People fear

CHARU VARTA,
July 21st, 1884.

Government by brute force.

brute force, but cannot love it, so wise rulers conquer by brute force, but do not govern their kingdom by it. Emperor Akbar was such a wise ruler. The English have indeed given peace to India and education to her people, but they have not won the hearts of the people only because their rule is harsh. The English have delivered the people

from Mahomedan oppression, and they therefore sincerely desire the permanence of British rule. But that is no reason why they should not demand their just rights. They live under the rule of Her Majesty the Empress of India, and so they should not be backward in pointing out the defects of her administration. A class of Englishmen want to prove them to be disloyal, but they are loyal. They desire the permanence of English power in India, but they want reforms. No brute force is required to keep India in peace. The people want government on liberal principles. They dislike Lord Lytton's government and admire that of Lord Ripon. Lord Ripon has allayed the apprehensions roused in their minds by the stern rule of Lord Lytton. That the natives deserve to be governed on liberal principles has been proved not only in Lord Ripon's time, but was improved also during the administrations of Lord Canning and Lord Bentinck. If the English can abolish race distinction and treat the conquerors and the conquered equally well, they will be able to see of what stuff the natives are made.

CHARU VARTA,
July 21st, 1884.

17. The same paper says that the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman* think that the native papers are in fault, and so they feel the necessity of re-imposing the Press

Act. The writer says that the native papers are not afraid of the Act. They do not fear death : they are not actuated by love of pecuniary profit like the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman*. They offer sound advice to Government gratuitously. Is it wrong to report to officials of the oppressions practised by planters ? If so, what are these papers to do ? One who points out defects with a view to their correction is a friend. The *Pioneer* and the *Englishman* are the enemies of Government. Admitting that the English are conquerors and the natives conquered, and admitting that the English are masters and the natives their servants, is it not a duty of the natives to warn the English if they go astray. If it is a duty, how are the native papers to blame ? The native papers look to the interests of the country. They help Government. The ruler of the country cannot know the want of every part of it, and the officers do not make these wants known to the authorities. How can a ruler be good to the people unless he knows what they want ? If natives are appointed to high posts, the authorities can expect to know something of the country ; in the absence of such high native officials the native papers are the only source of information.

CHARU VARTA.

18. The same paper says that Lord Ripon has shown strong sympathies with the people, and so the people idolise him. He wanted to infuse life and

vigour in the native community. He is not to blame much for the collapse of the Ilbert Bill. Of all oppressions in India, the oppression of the criminal law seems to be the greatest. People desire to obtain some relief from the working of this law. Lord Ripon has given hopes that he will do something in this matter. He hinted, at the time of the passing of the Jurisdiction Bill, that he would give some criminal powers to the people of this country. Indians resident in England applied to Government for the extension of the system of jury trial in the case of native criminals. Mr. Primrose, in reply, has said that the Governor-General will give his attention to the subject.

CHARU VARTA.

19. The same paper approves the proposal of the *Bhārat Mihir* of Service of summonses by the post serving summonses through the post peon, who is sure to be acquainted with every one within his jurisdiction. The advantage of this system is that there will be no necessity of getting witnesses to identify the person against whom the summonses are issued.

SANSODHINI,
July 22nd, 1884.

20. The *Sansodhini*, of the 22nd July, is glad to notice that Baboo Raj Chunder Chowdhry, the new jailor of Chittagong, takes great care of the health of the

Baboo Raj Chunder Chowdhry.

prisoners. He gives them some refreshment in the morning and three kinds of *dāl* to eat instead of one. The writer hopes that he will make good arrangements for their moral training too.

SANSODHINI,
July 22nd, 1884.

21. The same paper remarks many people have died from the effect of snake-bites at Chhota Chhanua under the Jaldi thana. The writer asks the Collector to make some arrangement for killing snakes in the village which is under the management of the Court of Wards.

SANSODHINI.

22. The same paper notices with disapprobation the dismissal of Baboo Jagat Chundra, the head clerk of the District Police office, on the suspicion that he opened an official letter of Mr. Smith, the District Superintendent of Police. The writer thinks that dismissal is rather a hard punishment. Suspension or transfer would have been quite adequate, especially when there is no proof against him. Mr. Smith has written to Calcutta for a head clerk, and in that letter he requests that no native of Dacca or of Chittagong should be sent to fill up the vacancy caused by the dismissal of Jagat Baboo. The writer tells Mr. Smith that there are men in Dacca and in Chittagong who hold higher places than he, and are more trusted by Government.

23. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 22nd July, says that the Gangur thana has been transferred to Satgachia in the Burdwan district. The people of Amadpur have in consequence applied to the Magistrate of the district to establish an outpost at Gangur. The writer thinks that the people are right in making the application, as Amadpur is a large village, and has many large villages in the vicinity, and so there should be an outpost close to it.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
July 22nd, 1884.

24. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 22nd July, says that the posts in the Opium Department, like the higher posts in the Police Department, have been hitherto the monopoly of Englishmen. But the Lieutenant-Governor's recent resolution regarding appointments to that Department is liberal, and makes no distinction between natives and Englishmen. But it is not easy to determine the object of the resolution. The editor does not venture to hope that the Lieutenant-Governor has of his own accord thrown open to natives a department which has been hitherto closed to them. He will be always grateful to the Lieutenant-Governor if he finds that his intentions are as noble as his words and that natives are entering the department by successfully passing a competitive examination.

BHARAT MIHIR
July 22nd, 1884.

25. The same paper makes the following observations upon the aspirations of natives:—However much Englishmen may distrust natives not a single educated native desires the subversion of British rule in India. If fallen India ever rises again; if it ever becomes equal to other fortunate countries in the world; if it ever enjoys the blessings of self-government, it will obtain these blessings only with the assistance of England. If the English Government is subverted and this country passes into the hands of another people, all our prospects will be blighted by the country being thrown many centuries backwards. We now hope and believe that we will gradually continue to obtain one new privilege after another in the administration of India in proportion as education spreads in the country, public opinion becomes strong, and the power of natives becomes known to Government. However formidable the civilian bureaucracy may be, however jealous it may be of natives, the stream of progress has begun to flow in this country, and its current is becoming so strong with the progress of education, that nothing will be able to resist it. The civilians will never benefit us willingly. There can be no doubt that

BHARAT MIHIR.

the higher civilians will try to throw dust in the eyes of the Viceroy. But even if it be possible to stop the flowing of the Ganges by placing stones in its bed it is not possible to resist the strong current of time. Because our future is not gloomy and hopeless under British rule, we are attached to it. Subjection to another race is natural for no people; and specially subjection to another race for ever can never be a desirable thing for a nation which has a glorious past to remember and the memorials of whose former civilization and prosperity exist. We are not desirous of including him among men to whom subjection is never distasteful. The English Government also does not desire that India should always remain under its present rigorous rule, and that this original abode of Aryans should never enjoy the blessings of self-government. Had such been its object, we would have seen it adopt a different policy. The English have come to this country to spread education here and to teach the people civilization and self-government. So long as this mission is not accomplished they will remain in India. We have been more than a century under British rule. We believe before the end of another century we shall be fit to undertake the administration of our own country. On account of this expectation we are attached to Government in spite of the innumerable faults of civilians. Cheerfulness is not observed in the native press and in native meetings, because the civilians are opposed to this final aim of Indians. Why did the whole country revere Lord Ripon like a god at first? Why is the affection of the people for him so great even after so many troubles and dangers? Why did the country become full of enthusiasm upon the introduction of the Ilbert Bill? Why is the anniversary of the introduction of the small scheme of Local Self-Government celebrated in Bombay? The country is not charmed with the present state of these measures. They are at present very narrow and small. Shouts of joy were raised from all sides of the country because the people thought of the future extension of these rights, and because they believed that these would assist them in gaining their ultimate end. Those who are trying to repress this aspiration of natives by various means and are throwing obstacles in the way of the progress of natives are the chief enemies of the English Government. Such conduct lessens the attachment of natives to the English Government. Natives have nothing in common with the English as regards nationality, religion, customs, and manners. The only tie by which they are bound with the English is the tie of self-interest. From the day on which Indians will understand that they will derive no benefit from English rule and that they have no interest in it their affection for Englishmen will begin to diminish. For this reason, we say most of the Anglo-Indians are the chief enemies of the English Government.

BHARAT MIHIR,
July 22nd, 1884.

26. The same paper says that the Ilbert Bill concordat has begun to produce evil results. Lower classes of Englishmen have become so outrageous within a short time that natives will at last find it difficult to remain in the country. The brutal outrage by the planter Webb upon a coolie woman and her subsequent death on account of the fiendish violence used towards her on that occasion have not been forgotten by Indians. Another tea-planter of the name of Francis has killed a coolie woman by kicking her on the abdomen. The poor woman died in excruciating agony. Another European of the name of Giatino Sgardelli is being tried for pushing down a coolie from the Hooghly bridge. The oppression of the indigo-planters became at one time very great in the country. The country was on the verge of ruin. The groans of the people reached even the ears of the Viceroy. Clemency Canning was then Viceroy. The noble-hearted Mr. Long was then a missionary here.

Oppressions by planters and other low Englishmen upon natives.

Baboo Dinabandhoo Mitter's *Nil Darpan* then made its appearance. The late Baboo Hurrish Chunder Mukerjee strongly condemned the planters in his paper—the *Hindu Patriot*. The touching songs of Dhiraj were sung in every place. The eyes of Government were opened, and the oppressions of planters were checked in a considerable measure. But similar oppressions by low Englishmen have again commenced.

BHARAT MINIR
July 22nd, 1884.

27. The same paper says that the Rent Bill contains a provision to the effect that if a person sued for arrears of rent makes an objection that he is a ryot not

The Rent Bill.

of the plaintiff but of another person it will not be heard until he has deposited the arrears of rent. Notice will be given to the third party when the arrears have been deposited. If the third party does not refuse to give the money by raising objections within three months, a decree for arrears of rent will be made in favor of the plaintiff. Of all the provisions in the Bill this is the most injurious. The friends of the zemindars have not been able to see all the faults of the provision on account of their selfishness. The object of all legislators is to prevent the increase of litigation, the implication of third parties in suits, oppressions by the strong upon the weak, and the deprival of one's rights by another. By the above provision all these objects will be defeated. It will be a source of much trouble to the ryots. Many persons may say that the ryots should not be implicated in suits in which the question of title will be considered, but those who are acquainted with the state of the country will never say so. They know that the ryots will have to assist their landlord in defending his rights, as they are interested in the protection of his right. Had they not been so they would have never raised the objection that they are the tenants of the third party. Consequently when a suit for arrears of rent is instituted against a ryot, he will have to try his best to protect the right of his landlord. On account of this provision the weak talookdars though reluctant to engage in litigation will be compelled to engage in it upon receiving notice from the court. When a ryot denies that he is the tenant of a certain person it may be taken for granted that there must be some defect in the plaintiff's title. A ryot can never deny that he is the tenant of a person who is his rightful landlord. A suit for arrears of rent should by no means be converted into one of title.

28. The same paper complains that Mr. Glazier is realizing revenue in advance in spite of protests. Even yesterday he realized revenue in advance from many persons. Unless the Commissioner or the Board of Revenue teaches him the law, he will not listen to the protests of the paper.

Mr. Glazier.

BHARAT MINIR.

29. The same paper says that Government now probably thinks that the Dacca-Mymensingh Railway will not be profitable. The shortening of the line naturally

The Dacca-Mymensingh Railway.

BHARAT MINIR.

makes one suppose so. One-half of the Dacca-Mymensingh Railway has been rendered useless by the non-construction of a railway from Sibalaya on the opposite side of Goalunda to Dacca. If the chief places of Mymensingh, such as Tangail, Sherpore, Jamalpore, Durgapore, are connected with the railway, trade will be improved and communication between different places facilitated, consequently Government will profit by the railway. But this has not yet been done.

30. A correspondent of the same paper says that the Mymensingh Municipality used to clear the drains every

BHARAT MINIR.

The Mymensingh Municipality and the local drains.

year for furnishing outlet to the water that gathered in the town during the rains. But this year, though the rainy season is well nigh ended, the water remains stagnant in the drains

It is not easy to understand what improvement the Municipality has effected in the town after increasing the municipal rates.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
July 23rd, 1884.

31. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 23rd July, deplores the wretched state of the mofussil. The insufficiency of rains this year has given rise to much anxiety and a

The state of the mofussil.

famine is likely to occur. The writer recalls to mind with sorrow the days when each caste followed its ancestral trade and never knew want. The people are now busy in setting up an agitation against the residence of high officials in the hills, but they scarcely pay any attention to the fact that villages are overgrown with jungle, that tanks are drying up, that rivers and streams are being silted up, and that malaria is making the mofussil almost uninhabitable.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
July 23rd, 1884.

32. The *Murshidabad Patriká*, of the 23rd July, says that the *aus* crop has failed on account of want of rain in the month of Ashar. The ryots live on

Probability of a famine.

aus for months till the *aman* is gathered in. For the last three or four years the state of crops in the vicinity of Moorshedabad was very bad. The people are sure to suffer a good deal this year. But the zemindar will have to pay his revenue punctually before the sunset of the appointed day. The zemindars are expected to collect only six months' or a year's rent when that for three years is due, but they have to pay their dues punctually. The scarcity of food and of water is sure to tell severely on the population. If there be no rain within a short time the country will be ruined.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA.

33. The same paper says that the case of killing Brojonath Dhar's cow has been dismissed. The writer is glad that it has been so dismissed, otherwise

The killing of Brojonath Dhar's cow.

many poor people would have lost their employment of catching cows and dragging them to the pounds, the pound-keepers would have been put to loss and the revenue would have suffered. Compared to all these losses, the loss of a milch cow is very small indeed. But unfortunately the killing of a cow has produced a panic in the neighbourhood except amongst those who are cow-eaters.

MEDINI,
July 24th, 1884.

34. The *Medini*, of the 24th July, says, Baboo Visweshwar's enquiry has proved that Baboo Gagan Dass the thakbust amin, took illegal gratification. But

Baboo Gagan Dass.

the writer is surprised to hear that he has been only suspended for three months. Such light punishment will simply encourage the amins to persist in their evil ways.

MEDINI.

35. A correspondent of the same paper says that it is tired of crying on the subject of the oppression of Messrs. Watson & Co. A memorial signed by thirty

Messrs. Watson & Co.

thousand ryots once moved the Government of India in their behalf, but what was the result? Mr. Beames came to the place, spoke a few good words to the people, and made the then manager of the Company sign a nominal agreement. But as soon as his back was turned, things returned to the same position as before. The Company have now determined to cancel the old leases of the ryots of Bagri, and to make a new settlement under the pretext of a new survey. The oppression which follows this attempt at settlement transcends description. The writer requests Mr. Wilson, the Magistrate of Midnapore, to undertake an enquiry, if, for nothing else, simply to prove that the *Medini* often contains false statements.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
July 24th, 1884.

36. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 24th July, apprehends that a famine is impending. The rains seem to have ceased altogether. The prospects of both

Probability of a famine.

the *aus* and the *aman* crops are extremely bad.

ALOK,
July 25th, 1884.

37. The *Alok*, of the 25th July, notices that seven persons have been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment for giving false evidence on behalf of

The Salem perjuries.

Government in the cases arising out of the Salem riots. It has been proved that these witnesses were tutored by the police. The witnesses have received the punishment they deserved; but will those who were at pains to tutor them go unpunished? The police is everywhere given to oppression. There is nothing, however, wicked and sinful, which the police will shrink from doing.

38. The same paper in commenting on Sgardelli's case says that it is no wonder that evidence against the European accused was wanting, for the bridge employés

ALOK,
July 25th, 1884.

Sgardelli's case. consider their post as worth more than the life of a comrade. Even educated men would not like to incur the displeasure of their employers. Under such circumstances, it is not surprising that illiterate coolies should be unwilling to come forward to give their evidence against a European master. The writer has nothing to say about the trial, but he asks whether an enquiry will be held as to the circumstances under which the poor man came by his death. If there is no enquiry, people will conclude that because a poor native has been killed there is no enquiry, and that the case would have been otherwise if a European had met the same fate.

39. The *Education Gazette*, of the 25th July, says that the present discontent amongst the educated natives is not owing to their disloyalty, but owing to the fact that their aspirations are not fulfilled on account of the competition of Europeans. They believe that as fellow subjects they are entitled to have equal rights with Europeans. But they are disappointed and become discontented. The natives hope that the defects in the native character will be removed by the influence of the English, and that when that is done they will be allowed to work independently. It is not therefore surprising that they become discontented when they see that the contrary is the fact. The English should remember how stoutly they have fought for their privileges; how they compelled King John to sign the Magna Charta. Were the English branded as disloyal because they fought for their privileges? To claim privileges is not a sign of disloyalty. It rather shews loyalty. The discontent of natives with the British Government has its origin in their love for that Government. But the wise editors of English papers and their constituents do not allow Government to understand the real state of things.

EDUCATION GAZETTE
July 25th, 1884.

40. The same paper does not believe that there is such a pressure of work at the High Court as to require an increase in the number of Judges. The Chamber of Commerce proposes that a portion of the surplus revenue under head "Law and Justice" should be expended for the purpose of increasing the number of Judges of the High Court. But the editor would like to see that the cost of translating and printing the records of cases were transferred from the parties to Government, inasmuch as the fees paid by them are more than sufficient for maintaining the Judicial Courts in a state of efficiency.

EDUCATION GAZETTE.

41. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 25th July, says that the officials of no other country are so highly paid as the Viceroy, Governors, and Civilians of India. Such high salaries are paid them owing to the consideration that they have to work in a hot country. Why then should a large sum of money be spent upon their luxurious stay on the hills? The civilians can work hard in the plains without any injury to their health so long as they are not appointed Lieutenant-Governors. But as soon as they are appointed to that high office they cannot, it seems, preserve their health without going to the hills. This is strange. Does the Queen send the Viceroys to rule India on the condition

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
July 25th, 1884.

that they will be allowed to stay during nine months of the year upon the hills? The Viceroy and Governors may be allowed to remain on the hills with a few officials for one or two months when it is very hot, but the spending of vast sums of money upon their stay upon the hills is by no means reasonable. Indians should protest against this exodus of the Governors which occasions much waste of money and impedes public business. The writer is glad that the inhabitants of Madras have protested against the exodus of their Governor to the hills.

UCHIT VAKTA,
July 26th, 1884.

42. The *Uchit Vaktá*, of the 26th July, says that since it has been proved that many respectable people of Salem have been transported to the Andamans on the evidence of witnesses who cannot be relied upon, and who it seems were tutored by the police, the injured men should be released by Government.

The Salem perjury case.

UCHIT VAKTA.

43. The same paper says that the Calcutta Municipality has been blamed for not attending to works of sanitation, but the writer is of opinion that the Commissioners are doing their best to improve the sanitary condition of the town. He asks Dr. Payne the reason why, if the sanitary condition of the town is so wretchedly bad, did he not bring it to the notice of the public when he was the Health Officer of the town. When he has not done so he is to a great extent responsible for its alleged insanitary condition.

The Calcutta Municipality.

UCHIT VAKTA.

44. The same paper condemns the action of the Umballa officials in connection with the National Fund Meeting at the premises of the Umballa school.

The Umballa officials.

SANJIVANI,
July 26th, 1884.

45. The *Sanjivani*, of the 26th July, notices that Mr. William Twiss, who killed a native boy, has been fined Rs. 40. The life of a native boy is valued

The case of Mr. William Twiss.

at Rs. 40!!!

SANJIVANI.

46. The same paper says that a coolie was committed to the recent criminal sessions in the Hooghly district on a charge of forgery. The jury found him not guilty, but the Judge abused the jury vehemently. The arbitrary conduct of the civilians has become intolerable. They should no longer be entrusted with judicial work. They will cause the very foundations of the British Empire to be shaken.

The Judge of Hooghly.

SANJIVANI.

47. The same paper says that Mr. Atkinson, the Magistrate of Tinnevely, has been hauled up before a Court of Justice on a charge of borrowing money from people living within his district. But such is the terror of the name of a civilian that no one ventures to come forward to give evidence against him.

The Magistrate of Tinnevely.

SANJIVANI.

48. The same paper says that self-government will soon be introduced in the North-Western Provinces. It has been decided that the district officers will be the Chairmen of Municipalities in the following cities, viz. Lucknow, Allahabad, Agra, Benares, Bareilly, and Moradabad, which are the most advanced cities in those provinces. Self-government has become a child's play.

Self-government in the North-West.

SANJIVANI.

49. The same paper says that the European accused in the Hooghly Bridge case has been acquitted. But how is the fact of the death of poor Sobhan to be accounted for? Sgardelli, the accused, touched Sobhan with his soft hand. Has Sobhan therefore given up his life to put the accused to trouble? Sgardelli may not have hurt him, but he had touched him, and two of the Beharis deposed that shortly after they heard the sound of the fall of a heavy thing into the water. But they are Beharis, and therefore liars. They are not to be trusted, because if they were trusted the case would be proved. The writer hears that the Defence Association has paid the

The Hooghly Bridge case.

expenses of Sgardelli's trial. They all wear hats. Where are the natives to go then? How can they obtain justice?

50. The same paper says that properties are constantly sold for arrears of road cess without any sort of advertisement whatever. The *Medini* wanted to publish the sale-list free of cost, and applied to the Magistrate for obtaining the list. The Magistrate declined to give the list on the ground that the *Medini* publishes statements vexatious to respectable men. The *Medini* protested against the accusation, and urged that the publication of the list would be beneficial to the public. But the Magistrate replied contemptuously. The writer asks whether the benefit of the public or the gratification of resentment should be considered the duty of a Magistrate.

Mr. Thompson.

51. The same paper contains an article headed "The war." We give a translation of it below—

"A fierce agitation ought to have been set on foot long since to send away Mr. Thompson, the ruler of Bengal, from this country. Nobody set the agitation on foot in time, and this day people are paying their penalty for it. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor is a plaything in the hands of the Anglo-Indians. Is it possible that any one has not understood this yet? The Ilbert Bill agitation has forcibly brought his real character to notice. But we are blind. We could not understand what was clearly explained to us. We saw the path of our duty, but could not follow it. Readers, hear what a wrong act His Honor has again committed. The Calcutta Corporation is composed of the most respectable men in the country. Reader, hear how this municipality has been insulted at the hands of His Honor. The narrow heart of self-seeking Anglo-Indians cannot bear the idea that the natives are to obtain self-government. If the unfitness of a well conducted municipality like that of Calcutta can be established, it will follow that self-government cannot be introduced anywhere, and so many are determined to establish the unfitness of the Calcutta Municipality. The Calcutta Municipality is an eyesore to Dr. Payne—the ornament of the East Indian community. This doctor Payne, a writer in the *Englishman*, and Justice Cunningham—this ominous trio—incited some Europeans of Calcutta to proclaim war against the municipality. They clamoured before His Honor saying (1) that the municipality does not adopt proper sanitary measures; (2) that such a large number of men would never have died in March and April had the condition of the unhealthy places of Calcutta been improved. To His Honor the unreasonable demand of Englishmen is gospel. It is beyond the power of the weak, and emaciated Lieutenant-Governor, who is suffering from illness, to disregard such a demand. His Honor immediately issued orders—censuring the respectable Commissioners of Calcutta—that a Commission composed of the Chairman of the Corporation, two Commissioners, two Doctors, and an Engineer, with a Government officer for its President be appointed for concerting means for improving the sanitary condition of the town, of improving the bustees, and so on. A body of respectable men are doing the municipal work gratuitously to the utmost of their ability, and the Lieutenant-Governor appoints at the request of some Englishmen a Commission over their heads without even so much as asking them. Since last year the Commissioners have commenced to spend heaps of money for bustee improvement. Two Inspectors, two sircars, 12 peons, 200 coolies, 32 carts, and 100 sweepers have been appointed for this work. In the northern division of the town there are 121 bustees containing 1,582 bighas of land. One hundred and fifty six mehters have been appointed for cleaning

SANJIVANI,
July 26th, 1884.

SANJIVANI.

" 72 bustees with 1,270 bighas of land and 44 mehtars for the rest of the bustees. The Bustee Committee has filled up seven tanks and 472 pits. Besides this 35 ponds have been filled up. The Commissioners have paid their special attention to the structural improvement of the bustees. It was proposed to construct 18 bustees anew, of which one bustee has been constructed on a new model; the construction of four are very nearly complete. Two have been examined by doctors, two constructed at the expense of the proprietors, and four have not yet been examined.

" As a result of these improvements the health of Calcutta was exceptionally good from June 1883 to February 1884. The death-rate was very high in April and May last. Ordinarily such a large number of men never die in Calcutta. But is the municipality responsible for it? The sky did not send rain. Is the municipality responsible for it? People died everywhere in India of cholera and small-pox. Are the Commissioners of Calcutta responsible for it? People are dying in Egypt, in France, and in London. Are we responsible for it? Every one understood why so many died in April and in May. The veritable dunces understood it. His Honor did not understand it. His Honor did not see that the municipality was working hard. His diseased eye did not see it. What some of the Europeans said His Honor readily understood and said "yes water is uneven." Now the question is whether His Honor will be allowed to do such improper things. We say, let His Honor's Commission arrive at any conclusion it likes, but let the Commissioners go on with their own work without taking any notice of it. The municipality has already shewn the firmness of its character. His Honor wanted a reply to his letter before the 25th of July; the Commissioners have said that they cannot give one before the 31st.

" His Honor can appoint a Commission of enquiry under section 28 of the Calcutta Municipal Act if the Commissioners do not adopt proper measures for cleansing the town. That Commission is to be composed of these persons, viz. the Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, or, in his absence, the senior medical officer, a Municipal Commissioner, or, in his absence, a Government servant, and an officer of Government. The Commission proposed to be appointed by His Honor will have seven members. They will not criticise the action of the municipality, but find out new means of bustee improvement; so it appears, that His Honor proposes to appoint the Commission by violating the law. It is a question whether His Honor will be allowed to commit this illegal act.

" Another thing, His Honor can appoint a Commission to cleanse the town only. He has no right to appoint a Commission for structural improvements. His Honor has violated the law for the sake of Englishmen. It should be seen whether he can be sued in court. Long since His Honor has lost his self-respect. Still there is such a charm in a Governorship that he cannot give up his appointment. Anyhow he should be obliged to resign his appointment this time. O citizens of Calcutta! plunge into the terrible war. We cannot afford to give up the self-government which we have already obtained. Let us go on, let us see whether the arbitrary conduct of His Honor or our just rights have greater power."

BANGA VIDYA
PRAKASHIKA,
July 26th, 1881.

52. The *Banga Vidya Prakáshiká*, of the 28th July, is glad to hear that Rai Saligram has been appointed Postmaster-General of the North-Western Provinces. The writer desires that similar justice should be done to Baboo Vishun Chunder Dutt, who has twice officiated as Deputy Postmaster-General and thus established his claim to the highest office in the Postal Department.

BANGABASI,
July 26th, 1884.

53. The *Bangabasi*, of the 26th July, quotes the remark of Judge Parker in the Salem perjury cases to the effect that the witnesses ventured to give false evidence because there were men to instigate them, and that the story of the conspiracy was entirely got up. The writer is sorry that so many gentlemen should rot in the Andamans as the result of these false prosecutions. He asks the people of Madras to set up an agitation for bringing back those who were transported.

BANGABASI.

54. The same paper notices the case of Mr. Wallace against the Governor of Madras, and says that the Judges of the Madras High Court have decided that they have no jurisdiction over the Governor and the members of his Council. The Judges have the power to collect evidence for transmission to England if a suit is instituted against the Governor-General for oppression, but they have no power to entertain suits against the Provincial Governors. Is it not desirable to change this state of things?

BANGABASI.

55. The same paper says that the Collector of Tinnevely is in difficulty. He was in the habit of borrowing money. He has admitted that he has borrowed Rs. 3,700. Colonel Weldon is trying the case. All India is waiting anxiously for the result of the trial. The writer believes that there are many among the Indian civilians who are in the habit of borrowing.

BANGABASI.

56. The same paper says that Lord Ripon is a man of liberal principles. He has come forward to grant self-government to the people of India. But the writer knew beforehand that his attempt would not be crowned with success. The planters have for a century and a half trampled the people under foot. The demoniac civilians have ruled the country with a rod of iron for a hundred years and more. One or two good men cannot do any good to a country like this. The people will not get even the hundredth part of the benefit of self-government. The self-government scheme will have very little *self* in it. The free elections in the municipalities will be interfered with in a thousand and one ways. The local self-government scheme will fare even worse than the municipalities.

Calcutta is the capital of India. If there is education and independence anywhere it is in Calcutta. Calcutta teaches self-government to the towns of Bengal. The opponents of the self-government scheme know it full well that if they can discredit self-government in Calcutta the axe will be laid at the root of the entire self-government scheme, and they are aided in their efforts by the Lieutenant-Governor. Last April there was scarcity of water in the native quarters of the town, and cholera broke out in consequence. The supply in the European quarters was reduced to save the native town, and cholera disappeared. But the opponents of the self-government scheme got a very good handle to raise a cry that the Commissioners are mere talkers and that they neglect the sanitation and conservancy of the town.

The legal and penetrating eye of Mr. Justice Cunningham fell on section 28 of Act IV, of 1876, and a demand was made for the appointment of a Commission under that section. The demand was conceded by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. He has proposed to appoint a Commission to ascertain what is to be done for the improvement of the town. The official Chairman of the Municipality will be the President of the Commission. Two medical officers and one Engineer will support him and a non-official European will increase the number of his supporters. Two Commissioners of the municipality will indeed have their seats on the Commission, but what can two men do against five? This is not a Commission in accordance with section 28. This is a Commission in accordance

with the wishes of the Lieutenant-Governor. If the Commissioners do not accept this Commission, a Commission consisting of three persons under section 28 will be appointed. The writer says, the Commissioners have not neglected the sanitation of the town. But they cannot achieve impossibilities. The object of the memorialists can be easily seen. They intend to take away the freedom of Calcutta. Sanitation is only a pretext. The writer is glad to see that the rate-payers are not indifferent lookers on. They are determined to criticise the impertinent letter of the Lieutenant-Governor. The writer waits to see whether the authorities will listen to the remonstrances of five lakhs of persons.

BANGABASI,
July 19th, 1884.

57. The same paper says that in Sgardelli's case tried at Hooghly many witnesses were not cited for the prosecution, but witnesses for the defence were many in number.

From the Engineer Graff to the peon many were ready to depose. The Government Pleader doubted the truthfulness of Mr. Graff's evidence. The writer will not comment on his deposition. But he did not do well in dismissing every one who spoke against the accused after the occurrence. The depositions of smaller witnesses were in the same tune with that of the principal witness. Every one saw slaps and blows dealt to the deceased, and one of them saw the European accused touch the deceased with his feet. But none of them saw him kick Sobhan and throw him into the river. However, it is useless now to lament over the matter when the jury found the accused not guilty. But the suspicion is not removed. Ghazi and Jahangir had no reason to trump up a false charge against a European gentleman. The evidence of the Civil Surgeon goes plainly to shew that the man was not drowned and that he died of serious injuries. The spirit of poor Sobhan will hover round people's ears. The jury, of course, believed that the accused did not murder the man, nor was he guilty of causing grievous hurt. But how could four men of the jury believe that there was no hurt? The majority of the witnesses deposed as to the fact of the hurt. Why did not the Judge convict the accused on the charge of hurt?

BANGABASI.

58. The same paper complains that much inconvenience is experienced by passengers owing to the fault of the crew of the steamers belonging to the Flotilla Company plying between Khulna and Barisal. The steamers also are too small to accommodate the large number of passengers. The attention of the Company should be directed to this grievance.

BANGABASI.

59. The same paper suggests that the steamer plying between Taki and Goberdanga should arrive at the latter place just in time to catch the 3 P. M. train. There should be two steamers plying between these two places, so that men can go from Taki to Goberdanga every day.

BANGABASI.

60. The same paper notices that in several places in Midnapore the cattle are suffering from foot disease, which causes them much pain. There is every likelihood of a large number of them being carried off. The ryots have suffered a great loss for this plague among their cattle.

PRABHATI,
July 26th, 1884.

61. The *Prabhāti*, of the 26th July, says that the Judges of the High Court have prayed for the appointment of three additional Judges. The writer says that these Judges should be chosen out of able native officers in the judicial service and native barristers and pleaders. Barrister Judges brought from England will not be so thoroughly acquainted with Indian laws as these persons. English Judges also will not be able to work as hard as native Judges. For these reasons, the writer says, the claims of natives should not be ignored for the

purpose of filling the pockets of Englishmen. The promise made by the Queen in her Proclamation will not be kept by the appointment of a single native Judge in the High Court.

62. The *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 26th July, hears that Baboo Ramgati Mookerjee is to be entrusted with the charge of the Tirhoot State Railway. Baboo Ramgati

SULABHA SAMACHAR
July 26th, 1884.

Baboo Ramgati Mookerjee. has managed the affairs of the Mutla and Nalhati State Railways very ably. They were losing concerns when he took charge of them, but by his efficient management he made them yield a profit. Bengalis can successfully compete with the English even in the management of railways.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
July 26th, 1884.

63. The *Grámvartá Prákáshiká*, of the 26th July, remarks that British rule in India will not bear good fruit, nor will its stability be assured until natives are given an increased share in the administration of their country. More good will accrue from appointing natives to high offices under the British Government than in maintaining hundreds of European soldiers in India. But this fact as well as the Queen's Proclamation are ignored in practice. The reduction of the limit of age in the case of the Indian Civil Service Examination makes it almost impossible for natives to find admission into that service. The limit of age in the Ceylon Civil Service is fixed above 21 years. But can good judicial officers be turned out for India at the age of 19 years?

The Indian Civil Service.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

64. The same paper says that the frequent recurrence of cases of killing coolies by Europeans leads one to ask in fear and wonder what rule is it that the people live under? It is not known whether or not the Empress of India, Lord Ripon, and the Members of the British Parliament ever become aware of these acts of oppression; but the time has come when they should no longer remain in ignorance thereof. Considering that a Roman Emperor was banished in consequence of the curse of Lucretia, that the Kurukhetra war was brought about through the insult offered to Draupadi, and that Serajuddowlah's violent death was caused through the curse of chaste Bengali females, one cannot believe that the chastity of females and the lives and property of the people will be permitted to be destroyed without opposition or protest under the rule of Queen Victoria, the ornament of her sex. Are Bengalis asleep, and Bengal the sporting ground of inertia? Were no friends of the poor, the foes of oppression, and friends of justice born in this country? If there are any such, let them, in the name of God, advance to the bar of justice to advocate the cause of the poor. Owing to oppression committed by hot-headed Englishmen it has become difficult to preserve the lives and property of the helpless people of this country. Let Government interfere in time. The cases of Webb, Francis, Sgardelli, and Byrne are such that even if they were stories they would make the blood boil; but they are facts, and will the people of Bengal shed tears in silence in their presence?

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

65. The same paper refers to the success of Mr. L. N. Paulit in the recent civil service examination, and observes that the fact of his long residence in England from early boyhood, and possessing numerous advantages, which few are fortunate enough to enjoy is proof that it is almost impossible for natives of India with the present low limit of age in force to find admission into the Covenanted Civil Service.

Mr. L. N. Paulit.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

66. The same paper observes in reference to the retirement of Mr. Dampier after a long service of 35 years, and the eulogistic notice of his services by the Lieutenant-Governor, that for various reasons and owing to his many

Mr. Dampier.

good qualities Mr. Dampier has become entitled to the gratitude of the people of Bengal. The erection of the Comercolly schoolbuilding was due to his exertions.

SADHARANI,
July 27th, 1884.

67. The *Sādhārani*, of the 27th July, says that there can be no doubt that Indians are becoming poorer and poorer day by day. The condition of the

The poverty of India.

country has become so miserable that District Magistrates are now required to report about the state of the crops and inform whether there is any apprehension of famine. The object of the proposal for conferring the right of self-government is to prevent famines. The proposal for employing natives more largely in the Government service is made in the view that a certain amount of money may remain in the country and thus the ravages of famine may to some extent be prevented. Famines have become very common in the country. Famine made its appearance at short intervals in Orissa, Behar, Madras, and the North-Western Provinces. It is not possible to extinguish the fire of famine by such means as are now adopted. When the English Government has converted the living into the dead by continual blood-sucking it should not be alarmed on seeing the blazing of funeral pyres on all sides. Mr. Hyndman has said that "the famines which have been devastating India are in the main financial famines. Men and women cannot get food because they cannot save money to buy it." The real cause of the occurrence of famines is the annual draining away of 20 crores of rupees. India will never prosper until that ceases.

SADHARANI.

68. The same paper says that there are two classes of men, viz. gods and devils, among Englishmen as among every other nation. The fiendish Englishmen

The cause of the poverty of India.

laughingly say that the people of Madras died of starvation because they were improvident. After bringing fever into the country by blocking up all the water passages of Bengal they laughingly say that Bengalis suffer from fever because they disregard the laws of health. If those whom they have robbed of everything lament, these fiendish Englishmen call them rebels. To beg for employment is impertinence. They call men idle if they cannot work on account of weakness caused by insufficient food. If the poor come to asylums for food they point to the sacred bit of silver round their arms which has descended to them from their forefathers and drive them away after reproaching them for deceitfully hoarding up money. But there are many Englishmen who honestly believe that the draining away of the wealth of India by Englishmen is not the cause of her poverty. Many of these persons think that over-population is the cause of India's poverty. They say that under English rule there are no internal wars and consequently men are not dying in battles. This has caused scarcity. But is it really true that over-population is the cause of India's poverty. Those who have not been confounded by the theory of Malthus will never think so. Population is considerably increasing in China. Still the Chinese can spend eight crores of rupees upon opium every year after defraying the expenses of food. Do famines occur in this country, because all the rice, wheat, &c., in the country is eaten up? One never hears of the stopping of the exportation of grains during famine. If, again, there is scarcity of food in the country on account of over-population, how is it that there is so much waste land; how is it that one meets with large uncultivated tracts, vast forests, and large jungles while travelling by rail from Howrah to the Punjab. The writer says that the following sentences of Mr. Henry George shew the true cause of the poverty of India:—"The millions of India have bowed their necks beneath the yokes of many conquerors, but worst of all is the steady grinding weight of English domination—a weight which is literally crushing millions out of existence, and, as shewn by English writers, is inevitably tending to a most

frightful and widespread catastrophe. Other conquerors have lived in the land, and though bad and tyrannous in their rule have understood and been understood by the people; but India now is like a great estate owned by an absentee and alien landlord. A most expensive military and civil establishment is kept up, managed and officered by Englishmen who regard India but as a place of temporary exile; and an enormous sum estimated as at least £ 20,000,000 annually (raised from a population where labourers are in many places glad in good times to work for $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $4d.$ a day) is drained away to England in the shape of remittances, pensions, home charges of the Government, &c."

69. The same paper in an article complaining of the cost of litigation says that the amlah and peons of courts exact money from suitors. Counsel charge

The cost of litigation.

heavy fees on their clients. Attorneys charge fees for every word they speak. Pleaders and muktears cannot charge such heavy fees as counsel and attorneys, as the law is very rigorous in their case, and as their number is very large. He who has much money has the greatest chance of success in the courts. He who leaves honesty outside, before entering the English law court, is sure to succeed.

SADHARANI,
July 27th, 1884.

70. The same paper says that the prayer of the English merchants for an increase in the number of Judges in the High Court must be granted. The writer recommends their prayer should be granted at the least possible expense. There are many barrister Judges in the High Court. They may be transferred to the Original Side. If three Additional Judges are to be appointed at all they should be appointed to the Appellate Side. Englishmen say that good barrister and civilian judges can not be obtained on the present reduced salary. The writer says, if it is so, three Native Judges should be appointed. Native Judges have had reputation for ability for a long time. As early as 1802, Justice Henry Strachey thus testified to the ability of Native Judges:—"An intelligent native is better qualified to preside at a trial than we can ever be."

SADHARANI.

71. The same paper says that though the Civilians have now in a great measure been cured of the disease of borrowing money, they have not yet been completely cured of it. Formerly many Baboos defied the law by keeping the Magistrates and Judges in their grasp by lending them money. The Bengal civilians are not now found to be over ears and head in debt. It is not known whether the civilians in the North-Western Provinces are in the habit of borrowing money. But the writer believes that they disgrace themselves by taking presents. The borrowing disease is now most prevalent among the Madras civilians. Having an inexperienced person like Mr. Grant Duff for Governor they are borrowing money in defiance of all rules. Mr. Atkinson, the Magistrate of Tinnevely, has been found guilty of borrowing money. He has admitted his guilt, consequently he may be punished without further enquiry.

SADHARANI.

72. The same paper says that the ruler should have a thousand eyes like Indra, the King of Gods, and should like that god always hurl his thunderbolts upon the wicked. The English Government is possessed of a thousand eyes, but nine hundred and ninety-nine of those eyes are used to find out the wants of Englishmen and the faults of natives; and only one eye is used to find out the wants of natives and the faults of Englishmen. The thunderbolts of the English Government also are not always hurled upon the wicked. The God of Air keeps men alive. Government also resembles him in one point, viz. in his destructive power. There is no one so impartial

SADHARANI,

The English Government.

as Yama, the King of the Dead. For this reason he is called "Dharma" or Righteousness. But the English are only feared by natives like Yama. The sun draws up water from the earth. The English, too, in the same manner collect taxes. But like Varuna, the God of Waters, it does not pour down water upon every place alike. The moon cools men with her rays. The English Government has only the stains of the moon. The English Government is avaricious, though like the God Kuver, it is the Master of all Wealth.

SADHARANI,
July 27th, 1884.

73. A correspondent of the same paper says that the inhabitants of Crocodiles in the river Kopata- the villages Mamudkati and Jalalpore, and of Khya. those lying between them (near Kheshra in Khulna), are being carried away by crocodiles. The correspondent entreats the Sub-Divisional Officer of Satkhira to compel the villagers to enclose the bathing ghats.

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 27th, 1884.

74. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 27th July, says that mother India is suffering all sorts of misery owing to her subjection to foreigners. She has become weak, thin and pale. Foreigners have taken possession of her and are sucking her dry. They have intruded themselves in India, and are depriving the people of their mouthfuls of food. They monopolise the high appointments; they prepare laws and regulations for their own advantage and convenience; they do not care much for justice or injustice; they consider the interests of the natives as nothing when opposed to those of the English. The people of India look on in a helpless manner. Their best interests are sacrificed for the benefit of the English. Over and above this the innocent natives are insulted, assaulted, and killed at every step; the people send up a cry for succour, when the English whip or the English kick falls on them. The demons are engaged heart and soul in violating the chastity and taking away the lives of Indian females. What a heart-rending scene!! The men who with all these things before them do not think of applying remedy are certainly heartless. Lord Ripon has, with a view of doing good, done a great wrong to the country. The Ilbert Bill has become the cause of ruin to the country. Low class Europeans are committing all sorts of crimes in the hope that the juries composed of their countrymen would acquit them. Webb, Francis, Byrne, and Sgardelli are committing crimes that cannot be named. But they do not get adequate punishment. The apprehension that matters will grow even worse in future, and that it would be difficult to live in this country, is of a tormenting nature.

It is a matter of great regret that the people of India do not gird up their loins to get rid of the oppressions of the white men. The scenes which rend the heart do not rouse the people to action. Native females cannot return with their lives without gratifying the evil passions of Europeans, and still 250 millions of natives are silent. This shews that natives are worthless, and have no sense of shame.

DACCA PRAKASH.

75. The same paper says that the union of the executive and the judicial functions in the hands of one and the same person is a source of great mischief. In the case of a breach of the peace the Magistrate is responsible if nobody is punished. Under such circumstances, it is not possible that he should look so much to justice as to the punishment of criminals. Even the High Court has said that the union of these two functions is not desirable. It is easy to separate these functions in districts by empowering some of the Deputy Magistrates with the administration of criminal justice, and placing them entirely under the Judges as Munsiffs are at present.

Their official designations should also be changed. The separation would be a little bit costly in sub-divisions. The writer proposes to employ a second Deputy Magistrate in every sub-division which will involve an additional outlay of a lakh of rupees. But Government can avoid the expenditure by making it a rule that in the cases in which Government is complainant the Deputy Magistrate should associate a respectable gentleman of the locality with him in the trial. Even if this second proposal does not meet with the approbation of Government, it can appoint a few itinerant Judges to try those cases which are cognizable by the police in the same way as is done in England.

76. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 28th July, says that it has become known, since the agitation on the Ilbert Bill, that Mr. Thompson is the chief opponent of the progress of this country. With a view to discredit the scheme of self-government, Mr. Thompson has remarked that the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality are unfit for their work. On the receipt of a memorial from certain European gentleman, the Lieutenant-Governor at once pronounced the Commissioners unfit. He should have at least waited for the report of the Commission he proposed to appoint before giving expression to such a condemnatory opinion. The memorial seems to have been inspired by Mr. Thompson himself. The Lieutenant-Governor has condemned the Commissioners before appointing the Commission in the view that the Commission would shape their report according to his views. The object of His Honor in doing all this seems to be (1) to shew that the natives are unfit for self-government; (2) to withdraw some of the powers of the Commissioners; (3) to appoint Dr. Payne as Health Officer of the municipality and to make him independent of the Commissioners.

The rate-payers of Calcutta have brought the arbitrary conduct of the Government of Bengal to the notice of Lord Ripon, and the writer hopes that he will do justice to the Commissioners.

77. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 28th July, says that Englishmen should know that natives do not respect them so much as they fear them. It is a matter of regret that the number of Englishmen in this country who can awaken reverence in the minds of natives is very few. Why do natives fear Englishmen so much? Why do native women fly from and feel uneasy when they see an Englishman? Why do not, not only cowardly Bengalis, but brave Rajputs and Pathans venture to remonstrate when they are insulted by Englishmen? Why do Hindus and Mussulmans who did not shrink formerly from killing people in order to save their women from dishonour now stand still when planters and sailors commit outrages upon their defenceless women? Why are the Indians so much cowardly now? Englishmen say that if they had not come to India the country would have been ruined. The writer asks these Englishmen, wherein do a people who cannot raise their hand when treated like cowards and beasts differ from a fallen nation? The natives have an impression that Englishmen are all-powerful in this country; that they have unlimited license in doing every illegal thing; that law, police, and law courts are in their favour; and that they themselves, on the other hand, are powerless, and that the law, police, and Judges are against them. Many events are confirming this impression in their minds every day. These are the causes of the cowardliness of natives. It is certain that if the law is impartial to Englishmen the Judge will shew partiality, and if the Judge is impartial, the law will be partial. If the police officer is an Englishman he will try to save an English criminal. If the police officer is a native, he will not send up a charge against an Englishman to his superiors for fear of displeasing them. All this is increasing the cowardliness of natives. Besides this, natives are not

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
July 28th, 1884.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
July 28th, 1884.

rich enough to engage competent barristers and pleaders, and consequently cannot prove the oppressions which are committed upon them by Englishmen. English criminals have the Defence Association to assist them. But no native association exists for the purpose of assisting oppressed natives. Those who have the welfare of natives at heart should look to the present state of things. Natives never act in defiance of the law, nor will they ever do so. But it is by no means reasonable that they should act like cowards in order to shew respect for the law. It has become absolutely necessary to prevent the present national degeneration either by reforming one-sided laws, or by preventing the police and Judges from being guilty of partiality or by creating a defence fund for the assistance of oppressed natives. A Defence Association is more necessary for natives than for Englishmen. Such an Association should be soon established in Calcutta.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
July 28th, 1884.

78. The same paper says that the Anglo-Indians of Calcutta who raised a tempest in a teapot when the Ilbert Bill was introduced did so not on

Murders by Englishmen.

account of any apprehension of injury, but for the purpose of humiliating Bengalis. The Englishmen in the mofussil, whom they excited, no doubt really thought that they would be greatly injured by the passing of the Bill. The five Europeans who were recently accused of murdering natives are probably thinking that it is a very fortunate circumstance that the Ilbert Bill was not passed. Mr. Webb's case has been re-tried in the High Court. The decision of the Judges has not yet been published. Whether Mr. Webb will be more severely punished or whether even the light sentence passed upon him will be set aside, is not known. The other planter (Francis) has been discharged by the Judge. The Judge has disbelieved the statements of the four witnesses produced by the police and also those of the complainant and of the two witnesses produced by him. Great excitement prevails among the Assam coolies in consequence of this judgment. The officials may stop the mouths of the people, but it is not possible for them to prevent their thinking as they please. No one would have thought of a miscarriage of justice if the two parties had been equally supported and if the case had been tried before an English Judge. The paper cannot say whether a miscarriage of justice has taken place in this case. But it is certain that the majority of the people are dissatisfied with the judgment. Is it desirable that the majority of the people should condemn the administration of justice by English officials? Another tea-planter of the name of Byrne has killed a native under the alleged impression that the object shot at was a buffalo. After the decisions in the case of Messrs. Webb and Francis all the people have become distrustful of English Judges. A European of the name of Geatino Sgardelli has been accused of pushing down a coolie from the Hooghly Bridge. All the witnesses have admitted that Mr. Sgardelli had beaten the deceased coolie. But no one has admitted that he had beaten the coolie severely or pushed him down from the bridge. The writer cannot say what another jury would have thought of such extremely cautious evidence as was given by the defendant's witnesses. But the jury in this case returned a verdict of not guilty. Consequently the prisoner was discharged. The writer does not find fault with the decision. The decision must depend upon the nature of the evidence given by witnesses. He only says that the people are not satisfied with the decision. The English lad of Bombay (Englishmen remain lads even after arriving at the state of youth) shot a native boy dead. The English lad was let off with a fine of Rs. 40. Almost all Indians are condemning this judgment. If the price of native lives be Rs. 40, Englishmen can easily

blow away the lives of 200 millions of India by paying 800 crores of rupees. The officials should act in such a manner that impressions of this kind may not take root in the minds of Indians.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
July 19th, 1884.

79. The same paper, in an article lamenting the death of Baboo Kristodas Pal, says that in him the Indian politicians have lost their chief teacher, the Indian editors their chief leader, the zemindars their chief guide, the Government a chief counsellor, Indians at large a powerful friend, and the Hindu community a chief protector. Every one must feel the loss of Kristodas. Both the Native and Anglo-Indian communities will feel much inconvenience on account of his loss. Such a friend of all classes is rarely found in the world. The loss of a single life rarely causes so much inconvenience. The editors of both Native and Anglo-Indian papers learnt much from Kristodas. Such experience of Indian affairs as the deceased gentleman possessed is very rare. He taught native and English contemporaries by communicating his thorough knowledge of affairs in gentle but vigorous words. He checked the haughtiness of the haughty by shewing them a fine example of mildness. On the other hand he encouraged the timid by shewing them the innate heroism and freedom of his heart. He was very amiable. Though he had risen from the lowest state to the highest his actions and behaviour never betrayed the slightest trace of pride or haughtiness. He was deeply attached to his friends and deeply reverent to those who are entitled to reverence. He was devotedly grateful to those who benefited him. He benefited every one who sought his assistance by every means in his power. The desire of benefiting others made his life sacred. [The whole Native Press deeply mourns the death of the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal.]

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

80. The same paper says that it has clearly shewn before that Mr. Thompson and the Calcutta Municipality. Mr. Thompson has unjustly censured the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta at the instigation of Anglo-Indians. The Commissioners have done nothing blameable. On the contrary they have tried their best to improve the condition of the town. The whole town is saying that a few Anglo-Indians actuated by race-feeling are trying to deprive the Commissioners of their freedom of action. English merchants have compelled their clerks to sign the petition against the municipality by threatening them. After much effort the signatures of 1,000 persons were obtained. Under the pretence of that petition Mr. Thompson is about to strike a deadly blow at the elective system. He has sent an ultimatum to the Commissioners. He will do what he thinks proper after receiving their reply to it. The English merchants are the lords of the town. Mr. Thompson is their slave. Mr. Thompson remains in his office because he obeys every order of the English merchants. It is no wonder that Mr. Thompson will obey the orders of an Association, the head of which (Mr. Keswick) has defeated the Viceroy and is his rival. The Commissioners will have to make arrangements for facilitating the carrying on of trade by the English merchants. The streets of Hatkhola must be widened. For this reason the Commissioners are being threatened. The writer had understood this before. The cry about the unhealthy state of the native quarter is nothing but a pretence. It is nothing but a weapon for depriving natives of the right of municipal self-government. When even the Lieutenant-Governor has bent his head before the English merchants, the municipality must bend its. For this reason it is anxious to obey the orders of the merchants. No one is anxious about money, as the rate-payers will pay, knowing that the municipality will be saved if the governors of the Lieutenant Governor are pleased. Mr. Harrison has without consulting the Commissioners, asked for a list of the streets which the English merchants want

to be widened. A few foolish Commissioners have blamed Mr. Harrison for this.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
July 28th, 1884.

81. The same paper says that technical and commercial education has become very necessary at present. But no arrangements have been made by Government for imparting such education in this country. A mechanical class has been opened in connection with the Shibpore Engineering College. But the people do not derive any benefit from it. Boys above fifteen are not admitted into this class. At fifteen boys are generally full of ambition. Parents especially do not like to take away their children from school at such an early age in order to give them the education of a common mechanic. It is a matter of regret that Government is not making any other arrangements for giving the people technical education. There is not much hope of Indian progress until Government establishes industrial schools and colleges. The Education Commission has thought the subject of technical education so unimportant that it has not even mentioned it in their voluminous report. In the portion of the Administration Reports treating of education no mention is made of technical education at all. It is apparent from all this that Indians will do nothing if they depend upon Englishmen for technical education. The people themselves should make arrangements for the spread of technical education. Dr. Sircar has established the Science Association by his own efforts. He would have done a greater service to the country if he could have established an Industrial College. The writer hopes that patriots will do their best to establish an Industrial College here.

Technical education.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

82. The same paper says that even cold England is being troubled on account of small-pox. It is making ravages in one English town after another. English municipalities cannot be accused of shortcomings. There are not talkative native Commissioners *there*. There filth-loving native rate-payers are not always busy in injuring the health of Englishmen. The vaccination law is also in full force in England. The writer is aware that the disciples of Mr. Taylor, who is against vaccination, are increasing in number. But the writer is not opposed to vaccination, nor does it advise natives to imitate the conduct of those Englishmen who are acting in defiance of the Vaccination Law. But it does not believe that vaccination will completely put a stop to the ravages of cholera. The British Medical Journal says that all persons must have seen that 75 per cent. of those who are attacked with small-pox were vaccinated in infancy. This proves that with the increase of age the power of the virus introduced into the body by vaccination diminishes. For this reason the journal advises that men should be revaccinated in order to stop the ravages of small-pox. The writer asks, how many times are men to be vaccinated? Are men to be vaccinated every year or every ten years? The journal has shewn that the virus is found to lose power after the age of ten years in boys who were vaccinated in infancy. But it has not shewn at what time in infancy, whether at five or seven, the boys attacked with small-pox were vaccinated. He has not also shewn how many years after they had been vaccinated these boys were attacked with small-pox. Consequently the journal has by no means been able to establish that virus loses power after ten years.

Vaccination.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

83. The same paper complains that while Mr. Elliot, the Sessions Judge of Allahabad, did not offer a seat to Rai Saligram, the Postmaster-General of the North-Western Provinces, who attended his court to give evidence in a case of embezzlement of money by a postal

Mr. Elliot, the Sessions Judge of Allahabad.

officer, he offered one, in the native gentleman's presence, to Dr. Dickens who had come to the court for the same purpose, and shewed him every attention. The people of Allahabad are dissatisfied at this. They are saying that the Postmaster-General is a higher officer than Dr. Dickens. Consequently Mr. Elliot should not have refused a seat to Rai Saligram on the ground of his being a native, while he gave one to the English doctor.

SURABHI,
July 28th, 1884.

84. The *Surabhi*, of the 28th July, referring to the decision of the Madras High Court that the Queen's Bench in England and not it had jurisdiction to decide such a suit as had been instituted by Mr. Wallace against Government, says that the rule that such cases should not be tried in India is very unjust and inconvenient. By such a rule Government is encouraged in committing oppressions upon its servants. The rule should be amended.

Mr. Wallace's case.

85. The same paper, referring to the dismissal of Kumar Satyasri Ghoshal from the Native Civil Service on account of his failure to pass the necessary examination says that under the present rules relating to appointments to the above service many worthless persons are becoming Magistrates and Collectors. This is a loss to Government and an insult to the people. The sooner these rules are abolished the better.

SURABHI.

Additional Judges in the High Court.

The same paper hopes that Lord Ripon will save suitors from loss by granting the prayer of the Judges of the High Court for the appointment of three additional Judges.

SURABHI.

86. The same paper says that a rumour is afloat that a rule will be made that henceforth the Viceroy will stay upon the hills only for four months. The agitation against the exodus must be admitted to be somewhat successful if it be ruled that the Viceroy only will stay upon the hills for four months and the practice of other officials going to the hills be stopped.

SURABHI.

The Simla exodus.

87. The same paper says that it is rumoured that Lord Ripon will come to Calcutta in October, and after making over charge to Lord Kimberley, who, it is rumoured, will succeed him as Viceroy, will proceed home. Though Lord Kimberley is a Liberal, he has behaved towards India like a Conservative. He has given many proofs of his illiberal policy towards India. Upon receiving trustworthy information regarding Lord Kimberley's appointment to succeed Lord Ripon as Viceroy all Indians should protest against the arrangement. If all Indians say with one voice that they do not like to have Lord Kimberley for their Viceroy, Mr. Gladstone will desist from appointing Lord Kimberley as Viceroy, and even if Mr. Gladstone does not do so, Lord Kimberley will act very cautiously after being appointed Viceroy.

SURABHI.

Lord Kimberley.

88. The same paper says that there is a rule that a civilian should not borrow money in the district in his charge. But many civilians borrow money in defiance of that rule. Some are caught from time to time. A short time ago the borrowing of money by Mr. Metcalfe of Patna became known. Now a Madras civilian of the name of Atkinson has been found guilty of the same offence. The borrowing of money by civilians has become so common that an example should be made of Mr. Atkinson by dismissing him.

SURABHI.

Borrowing of money by civilians.

89. The same paper says that the Calcutta Municipality is the chief self-government assembly in the country. Mr. Thompson's object in discrediting the Commissioners of that municipality before

SURABHI.

The Lieutenant-Governor and the Calcutta Municipality.

the public is to prove the unfitness of aspiring Bengalis for self-government. Had not such been his object he would have surely complained of the unhealthy state of the suburbs also. But as the suburbs are under the management of Government he has not complained of the want of proper sanitary arrangements therein. The health of the town will not improve so long as the suburbs remain unhealthy. They are so near Calcutta that if an epidemic rages there it soon reaches the town. Had Mr. Thompson expressed as much sorrow and indignation for the unhealthy state of the suburbs as he has done for that of the town, the people would have believed that he has acted from honest motives.

SURABHI,
July 28th, 1884.

90. The same paper complains that while Mr. Elliot, the Sessions Judge of Allahabad, did not offer a chair to Rai Saligram, the Postmaster-General of the North-Western Provinces, who came to give evidence in his court, he offered one to Dr. Dickens who came there for the same purpose. Mr. Elliot surely wanted to shew that though Rai Saligram holds a very high post, being a native, he is an object of hatred to every Englishman. It is a matter of regret that Englishmen do not understand that such instances of incivility towards natives dissatisfy natives and loosen the foundations of the British Empire in India.

SURABHI.

91. The same paper says that only one of the jurors found Mr. Sgardelli guilty of simple hurt. But the Judge disregarded his opinion and gladly discharged the prisoner in accordance with the verdict of the majority of the jury. Natives should give up the hope of seeing Englishmen who kill natives adequately punished. So long as natives are not cured of their cowardice and do not venture to strike Englishmen when they are struck by the latter they will continue to be killed by the latter.

SURABHI.

92. The same paper says that because the Chemical Examiner at last found opium in the stomach of the coolie woman killed by the planter Francis, the Judge disregarded every other evidence against the prisoner and discharged him on the ground that the woman had committed suicide by taking opium. It has been always observed that English Judges are unduly eager to discharge an English criminal if they find the slightest evidence in his favour. Such has been the case in this instance. Mr. Francis' case has proved the impossibility of administering impartial justice on English criminals by English Judges.

SURABHI.

93. The same paper says that the officials profess to seek the good of the people only, but in reality they seek their own comfort and happiness. It is now well known that Indians are very poor and cannot get sufficient food. Government also knows it. Had the object of Government been to improve the condition of the people it would have never wasted their money in the way it is doing. The arrangements for the stay of not only the Governors, but also of the common English officers on the hills, shew how little Government cares for the happiness of the people. It is said that business cannot be smoothly done if the officials do not accompany the Governors to the hills. But this plea has no force. If the officials remain in the plains, no other inconvenience but that of increased communication by post and telegraph will be felt. There is no necessity also for keeping in Simla the thirteen offices which are now permanently located there. These offices have become very costly owing to their being located in Simla.

SOM PRAKASH,
July 28th, 1884.

94. The *Som Prakash*, of the 28th July, says that the rumour that Lord Kimberley will succeed Lord Ripon as Governor-General is gradually assuming the

Lord Kimberley.

appearance of probability. This has filled the writer with the apprehension that the present policy of the Government will be changed. Lord Ripon's policy though it has not been completely carried out is very just and liberal. The writer does not believe that Lord Kimberley's policy will be similar to Lord Ripon's. It is generally found that a Governor alters the policy of his predecessor. The country would be benefited if Lord Ripon remained in this country at least a little longer. He is going to leave the country exactly at the time when the measures introduced by him are to bear fruit. It is very doubtful whether these measures will at all bear fruit. Effect has not been given to the recommendations of the Education Commission. The system of self-government has not yet been regularly established in the country. No decision has yet been made regarding the petition of Holkar. The opening of the eyes of Indians on account of education is very unpleasant to Englishmen. Many Anglo-Indians are trying to prevent the spread of high education in this country. The writer is not sure that Lord Kimberley will not gratify their desire. His refusal to raise the standard of age for the Civil Service has shewn that he is not favourably disposed towards natives.

95. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor is opposed to the progress of Bengal. He has been here for a long time. Consequently he is aware of all the wants of this Province and of the means by which it can be improved. He is old. He has gained much experience, and his head has become cool. He has been long fed by the people of this country. Consequently he must be grateful to them. For these reasons the writer thought that Bengal would prosper under Mr. Thompson, but the country far from being benefited is being injured by him. He is partial to the strong. He has no affection for those whom it is his duty to love. He has done nothing for improving the condition of Bengalis. On the contrary, he has been from the first placing obstacles in the way of their progress. He opposed the Ilbert Bill. He is not in favour of the system of self-government, nor is he in favour of the high education of the natives. His proposal to appoint a Commission in connection with the municipality has shewn that he is hostile to the system of self-government. The reasons shewn by him for the appointment of the proposed Commission and the duties assigned by him to it both shew that he does not like that the Municipal Commissioners should enjoy freedom. It is very unreasonable to hold the Commissioners responsible for the prevalence of diseases in the town in March and April. Diseases would not have raged if the Exhibition had not taken place. The Commissioners have made suitable sanitary arrangements for the permanent inhabitants of Calcutta. But did Government assist the Municipality with any special grant of money for making suitable arrangements for the thousands of persons who came to see the Exhibition? It is well known that overcrowding is followed by the prevalence of disease. Have not the Commissioners tried, and are they not trying, to improve the health of Calcutta? Is not the state of Calcutta far better now than formerly? Have not the Commissioners filled up tanks filled with putrid water? Have not they widened the streets? The writer does not say that everything necessary has been done. But is it proper to appoint a Commission for doing these things? Would not Government have attained its object if it had simply requested the Commissioners to do these things? Have not the Commissioners been insulted by the proposal of appointing such a Commission? Had the Government seen the state of the places under the jurisdiction of those municipalities, the Commissioners of which it appoints itself, it would have never insulted the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality.

SOM PRAKASH,
July 28th, 1894.

SOM PRKASH,
July 28th, 1884.

96. The same paper says that the practice on the part of officials of receiving presents does not exist in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces alone. It also prevails in Madras and Bombay. Mr. Atkinson, the Collector of Tinnevely, has been found guilty of the above offence. He has also been accused of borrowing money from different persons of that district.

SOM PRKASH.

97. The same paper says that because Government is blind to the faults of Englishmen, Magistrates like Mr. Maguire can do what they like. Many of Mr. Maguire's decisions are being set aside by higher courts. He has been transferred from Chittagong because he is an unjust Magistrate. The Commissioner of the Presidency Division has been instructed to keep a sharp eye upon Mr. Maguire. Still that officer is passing wrong judgments. Where is the fitness of a Judge if he passes wrong judgments? How will he again be cured of this if he does not fear anybody? Recently a person submitted a petition praying that steps might be taken for preventing a probable quarrel in a certain village. A case in which the parties between whom the quarrel was apprehended were respectively complainant and defendant had been recently tried before Mr. Maguire. He took recognizance from both parties. One of them sought the protection of the Magistrate inasmuch as the other, for whose fault the quarrel first broke out, was trying to quarrel again. The Magistrate sent the petition to Mr. Maguire. The latter wrote to the Magistrate that there was no probability of a quarrel as both parties had given recognizance, that if a quarrel broke out Government would be a gainer and so the police need not be sent to the place. The Magistrate disregarding this letter directed the police to keep the peace, and to enquire into the truth of the petitioner's statements. Is a person like Mr. Maguire fit to be a Magistrate? Are Magistrates appointed for keeping the peace or provoking quarrel? Does not Mr. Maguire's letter sufficiently prove that his object is to make Government a gainer by provoking quarrel? Is Government satisfied with such conduct? Is it for this reason that despotic and unjust judicial officers are rapidly promoted?

SAMAYA,
July 28th, 1884.

Block of work in the High Court and the memorial of the Trades Association.

98. The *Samaya*, of the 28th July, remarks that the delay which suitors have to put up with in the Calcutta High Court is notorious. The parties to a suit have sometimes to wait even for two or three years before they obtain justice. Both suitors and witnesses are thus subjected to loss and trouble, while the ends of justice are not unoften frustrated. The Calcutta Trades Association has memorialized Government on this subject. The memorialists have dwelt upon the loss and inconvenience caused to the mercantile classes under the existing state of things, and upon the block of work in the High Court. The reduction made in the salaries of the Judges, the necessity that has arisen of appointing more Judges to the Original Side of the Court, and the impropriety on the part of Government of making a profit by dispensing justice have been brought to the notice of Government by the memorialists. The editor fully approves of the memorial, and asks Government to take it into their consideration.

SAMAYA.

99. The same paper points out what it conceives to be the four great blunders committed by the Lieutenant-Governor and the Governor by his action in writing the recent letter to the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality regarding the sanitation of the town:—These are (1) that he has condemned the Commissioners unheard; (2) that on the strength of the assurances of Mr. Justice Cunningham and Dr. Payne—the two great enemies of local self-government—he has disregarded all considerations of duty, and believed as true false statements regarding the health of the city; (3) that he has sought

to coerce the Commissioners into incurring expenditure ; and (4) that he has sought, in violation of the provisions of the law, to appoint a Sanitary Commission to supersede the Committee appointed by the Commissioners on this behalf on the 15th July last. Neither the Lieutenant-Governor nor his supporters can urge anything by way of justification so far as these points are concerned.

100. The same paper remarks that now that it has been proved that those on whose evidence so many persons

SAMAYA,
July 28th, 1884.

The Salem perjury cases.

in Salem were punished with transportation had perjured themselves, it behoves Government to release those innocent men who are undergoing their sentence at the Andamans. If this is not done, all faith in "British justice" will be at an end. It is to be hoped that Lord Ripon will call for the papers in the Salem riot case and do justice.

101. The same paper condemns the reckless manner in which the servants of the Calcutta Tramways Company

SAMAYA.

The Calcutta Tramways Company.

do their work. They seem to think themselves "Government servants," and as such entitled to do anything they like. The drivers and the conductors of the cars frequently, by their reckless conduct, cause collisions and damage to conveyances and injury to human limbs. The police overlook the faults of these men.

102. The same paper asks, in reference to the appointment of

SAMAYA.

Mr. Apcar appointed Clerk of the Crown.

Mr. Apcar as Clerk of the Crown in succession to Mr. Piffard, deceased, was no Bengali barrister available? The editor surmises that the present appointment may have something to do with Mr. Apcar's speech against the Ilbert Bill delivered at the Town Hall. He has further heard a rumour that when Mr. Paul takes leave the present Standing Counsel will officiate for him as Advocate-General, and that an Englishman and not Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee will this time be appointed to officiate as Standing Counsel. Is this also asks the editor, an outcome of the Ilbert Bill? If Mr. Bonnerjee does not desire to take the acting appointment, either Mr. M. M. Ghosh or Mr. T. N. Paulit may worthily fill it. How many are there in the High Court as able as Mr. Ghosh? It is to be hoped that Lord Ripon will not suffer such an act of injustice to be done.

103. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Ajgara in the

SAMAYA.

Want of roads and postal irregularity.

Khulna district, complains that in this rainy season the inhabitants suffer great inconvenience through want of roads. The existing narrow footpaths are covered with mud, and have dense jungle on their two sides. The writer further complains that the inhabitants do not receive their letters until a week after they should be delivered.

104. One Kunja Behari Raya, writing to the same paper from

SAMAYA.

Oppression of tenants in Bagri in the Midnapore district.

Gohaltor, pergunnah Bagri, in the district of Midnapore, dwells upon the oppression committed by the indigo-planters on the ryots of that pergunnah. Fearful oppression is being committed on the people of Bagri : in fact it has become a fit stage for the enactment of the scenes of the *Nil Darpan*. The all-powerful zemindar is doing just as he pleases ; the police and the law courts have closed their eyes in the presence of unchecked power. No one dares to protest. It is the people of Bagri who realize the bitter consequences of the Ilbert Bill. The zemindar is treating all lands alike, no matter whether they are under a settlement or not. The crop of sugarcane standing on the *kala* land under settlement is destroyed, and the indigo is sown on it at night. The trees thereon are forcibly cut down and sold. The indigo plant is growing on

all sides of the homestead blocking up all means of egress or ingress, and no one dares to protest. The cattle are by force taken to the pound from the pasture land. Any one making the least show of protest is compelled to go to the zemindar's cutcherry. The poor ryots are helpless. Bagri, it seems, is not under British rule, but forms a part of the "Magh empire" or empire of lawlessness. So much for the indigo cultivation. The zemindar's law is quite a strange affair. *Pottahs* and *kabuliyats* are not in favour; a "form" has been devised. In this "form" no mention is made of the rights of the tenant, who is not even allowed to take out a copy. Those ryots who took out *pottahs* before Messrs. Watson & Co. came into possession of this zemindari are being harassed in various ways with a view to compel them to return their holdings to the khas possession of the Company. They are being sued every month for instalments of rent. Rents are not taken from them by friendly means, the object being to bring them under the power of the Company by harassing them by means of costly litigation.

SAMAYA,
July 28th, 1884.

105. Another, writing to the same paper from Haripal, says that in the month of Jaistha there were no less than four murders committed on the tract of

News from Haripal and Sánotá.
country known as the *Sánotá Máth* in the jurisdiction of the Jehanabad station in the Hooghly district. It has become necessary to establish a police outpost in this place. The writer then states that peons of the Haripal Munsif court frequently suppress sale notices and processes of attachment; that many cases of theft have recently occurred in Haripal, Kristopore and adjacent villages, and that the outstill near the *Sánotá Máth* referred to before has become the resort of a large number of wicked characters. Government should abolish it.

SAMAYA.

106. A correspondent of the same paper complains that arrangements made in connection with the steamer service between Khulna and Burrisal opened by the "Bengal Central Flotilla Company" are far from satisfactory. The rate of freight is unduly high, while the non-acceptance by the company of any responsibility for the safe landing and shipping of goods, or for any loss in connection therewith, is felt to be very disadvantageous. The passengers again are very much inconvenienced owing to the circumstance that the steamers do not stop at any intermediate place to allow of their taking any refreshments. The present arrangement regarding the running of trains from Khulna is not convenient; they start either too early or too late. The sanitation of Khulna is excellent.

SAMAYA.

107. Another, writing to the same paper, urges the removal of the post office at Haludbari in the Midnapore district to Kalageche, also in the same district. The latter place occupies a more central position than the former as regards the whole area under the jurisdiction of the post office in question.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
July 28th, 1884.

108. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 28th July, remarks that recently some Europeans were brought up before the courts on a charge of culpable homicide. Of these cases, the case of Mr. Webb has been reviewed in the High Court, but the judgment has not been yet given. Mr. Sgardelli was tried at the Hooghly Sessions, and the jury having returned a verdict of not guilty the Judge has discharged him. Mr. Francis also has after trial been discharged. Referring to the last two cases, the *Englishman* newspaper observes that curiously enough the predictions of Europeans that if the Ilbert Bill became law natives would bring false cases against Europeans

in the mofussil and seek to injure them in other ways has been so early as this fulfilled. According to the *Englishman* the police wilfully brought false cases against Francis and others and suborned false witnesses to support their allegations. But, says the *Patriká*, what the *Englishman* states may be true, but the Judges did not entertain and try the cases in question merely on the evidence of the police and their witnesses. The police were supported by the Civil Surgeons, who were Europeans, and who examined the dead bodies. If therefore what the *Englishman* says is true, not only natives, but Europeans of high position also, would seem to be in the habit of bringing false cases against Europeans.

It is not known whether there has been any miscarriage of justice in the case of Sgardelli and Francis. But the Judge expressed some surprise when, in the case of Sgardelli, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty. To the charge brought against the natives by the *Englishman*, they may perhaps reply by saying that in the two cases in question impartial justice has not been done. Sgardelli's case was tried by a jury, the majority of which were Europeans, while the witnesses were men who were serving either under the accused or his friends. Under these circumstances, it was more likely that injustice rather than that justice should be done. Again, the manner in which the Judge received the verdict of the jury was such as to produce doubts in the public mind as to whether justice was done in the case. As regards the case of Francis, people will be slow to believe that there was nothing wrong about it. The Civil Surgeon in Assam did not find any trace of opium in the stomach of the deceased coolie woman, nor could he in any other way discover any symptoms of poisoning by opium; and yet the examination of the dead body in Calcutta revealed the existence of opium in the stomach of the deceased woman. This will produce suspicion in many minds.

Whether there has been justice or injustice done in the preceding two cases will, of course, be revealed in time; but it is certain that many in this country will not be satisfied with the result of these trials. Owing to the injustice done by some European Judges, and the oppression committed by some Europeans, a firm conviction has grown in the minds of the people of this country. Owing to this conviction, whenever a criminal case is brought against a European, they at once believe that the accused is not innocent. Again, whenever a European accused is discharged after trial, the natives at once think that justice has not been done. High-handed Europeans and biassed Judges are gradually helping to confirm and strengthen this impression in the native mind. Neither the authorities nor Europeans may set much store by this idea which exists in the native mind; but if it should be considered proper to recognize its existence, the criminal law and the procedure in criminal trials should be altered. God only knows whether or not Francis is really guilty. Since he has been discharged after trial, it is not perhaps proper to call him any longer a guilty person. Nor can one say how far Webb is guilty. But it has been already remarked that the people of this country believe that in many cases Europeans causelessly oppress natives, and that in many cases European Judges let off European offenders. This impression in the public mind will not be removed so long as the trial of European offenders will continue to be wholly entrusted in the hands of Europeans. It matters little what the *Englishman* may say, but if the impression referred to really exists, the people should not remain idle, but adopt remedial measures. Either the feeling of mortification should be banished from the mind or means used for the prevention of its reappearance. To continue to cherish it in the heart may lead to disastrous consequences, aye, to a subversion of the British Government—a contingency which if it came to pass would injure natives more than it would European officials.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
July 28th, 1884.

109. The same paper continues the subject in another article, and refers to three cases of Europeans inflicting grievous hurt upon natives, and killing natives by mistake. The editor does not know whether the oppression of natives by Europeans has increased, or, owing to the increased circulation of newspapers, more cases of such oppression are now published than formerly. Not a week passes in which one or two such cases are not reported in the newspapers. So long as Europeans are thus allowed to oppress with impunity, the evil will not be remedied—nay, will go on increasing. This oppression can be checked in two ways, namely, first by an impartial administration of justice by Government officials, and second by efforts on the part of natives to defend themselves. Natives can defend themselves in two ways, namely, first by seeking the protection of the law courts, and, second, by taking the law in their own hands so far as the punishment of the offenders is concerned. The officials are not checking this oppression. The power of non-official Europeans in this country is so great that the officials do not of their own motion venture to do this. It is needless to say that it is idle for natives to resort to law courts for redress. Whatever may have been the case formerly, the people are every day perceiving with increasing clearness that since the agitation about the Jurisdiction Bill complaints against high-handed Europeans have become quite ineffectual. Since that agitation most Europeans have lost the slight sense of justice which they formerly possessed. With many of them the object now is to anyhow trample upon natives. Europeans in this country always sympathized with tyrannical Europeans, but since the agitation over the Jurisdiction Bill there has been such unity among them that the like of it did not exist formerly. They have now formed a defensive and offensive alliance with one another. Indigo-planters, tea-planters, tradesmen, merchants, newspaper editors, and secretly some officials also have joined this alliance. Under these circumstances, there is no other way open to natives than that of taking the law in their own hands as far as the punishment of European offenders is concerned. But natives can never be guilty of such indiscretion, nor can those who love India urge them to adopt such a reprehensible course. If they adopt this reprehensible course, the officials may take the side of tyrannical Europeans; in that case there will be anarchy in the country which will injure both natives and the British Government, the former more than the latter. When, again, people find themselves powerless to check oppression, they become despotic and arbitrary. The system of British administration is conducted on certain excellent political principles. That system indeed has not much concern with India, but Indian officials in ruling this country appeal to that system. That the people suffer so much hardship under an administration which is based on such excellent principles is, in a large measure, due to their incompetency and lack of intelligence. The editor believes that had natives made an agitation about the oppression of Europeans, and the injustice of European Judges, the misery of the people would have been by this time to a great extent alleviated. Indigo oppressions indeed continue to exist in many places, but there can be no doubt that in Bengal at least the old type of indigo-planters has ceased to exist. The natives did not put a stop to the indigo oppressions in Bengal by the force of their arms. They raised an outcry and Government directed its attention to the evil. It therefore behoves the people of this country to set on foot an agitation about this matter.

What is the remedy?

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,

The case of Mr. Francis.

110. The same paper observes that though the telegraphic summary of the judgment in the case of Mr. Francis published in the *Indian Daily News* is necessarily imperfect, still enough has been published to cause various doubts in

the public mind as to whether justice has been done in the trial of this case. The Judge does not appear to have believed the story of the deceased having taken opium or to have attached any importance to it. There is no mention of this circumstance in the judgment. The medical examination of the dead body in Assam did not disclose any symptoms of opium poisoning. It would be no wonder if somebody put in some opium in the stomach of the deceased while the dead body was being carried from Assam to Calcutta. The Judge found fault with the police for the manner in which they had investigated the case. If he had believed that the death of the woman had resulted from opium, he would doubtless have called upon the police to explain why they did not make any enquiries to ascertain whether opium had been really taken when the native doctor attributed death to that cause. But the Judge has not done this, nor enquired why it was that the deceased should have taken opium. The defendant also did not assign any cause for it. The judgment again does not contain a word to shew that the deceased had fever, or any other symptoms which would certainly have manifested themselves if, as was held by the Judge, death had resulted from congestion of the kidneys caused by a fall, and the fact of the deceased having been subsequently assaulted by four coolie women. The Judge held that the prosecution was the result of a conspiracy against Mr. Francis on the part of the coolies, and yet it was observed by him at the same time that Mr. Francis was a wellbehaved man who had never been unkind to the coolies. It is not therefore clear why a false case should have been brought against such a man. The Judge again held that the intention to charge Mr. Francis with murder was formed when it became known that the Civil Surgeon had given it as his opinion that the death was not due to opium. But how could the coolies know the opinion of the Civil Surgeon as to the cause of death? Again, how can it be held that the opinion of that medical officer influenced the coolies when it is considered that Mr. Francis was charged with the offence long before that opinion had become known? Considering the youth of the accused, which the Judge himself admits, and the probability that he was still indiscreet and possessed of not a very mild disposition, he was more likely than not to have committed the crime with which he was charged. The Judge has not done well in expressing so much sorrow for Mr. Francis.

111. The same paper remarks. in reference to the rumour that either Lord Kimberley or Mr. Goschen will succeed Lord Ripon as Viceroy, that it matters little

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
July 28th, 1884.

whether the one or the other is appointed as the next Governor-General, for the weal and woe of India does not depend upon the good or the bad intentions of the Viceroy. If that had been the case, Lord Ripon might have done much good to this country. It is the English people who are the real rulers of India, and until they follow a disinterested policy in the government of this empire, no good results will follow.

112. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 29th July, referring to the decision of the Judge of Hooghly in the case of Mr. Sgardelli, says that Government pretends that the same law applies both

SAMVAD
PURNACHANDRODAYA,
July 29th, 1884.

Different laws for natives and Englishmen.

to the case of natives and Englishmen; but in reality there are different laws for Englishmen and natives. The decision of English Judges in the cases of English criminals are really disgraceful.

113. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 29th July, says that the petition to the Viceroy adopted at the recent public meeting of the rate-payers of Calcutta is well reasoned and full of incontrovertible facts. Though the Government

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
July 29th, 1884.

Mr. Thompson and the Calcutta Municipality.

of India some time before complained that sufficient money was not being spent upon sanitary arrangements for the town, the writer firmly believes that Lord Ripon will never support the illegal action of Mr. Thompson after a consideration of all the circumstances of the case. The writer says that there is no necessity for the appointment of a Commission when all classes of the rate-payers are satisfied with the work of the Commissioners, when the people are unanimously saying that Mr. Thompson is about to injure the municipality at the instigation of the Anglo-Indians, and when the municipality itself has appointed a Committee for deciding what arrangements should be made for improving the health of the town before receiving Mr. Thompson's letter. The Commissioners have also done nothing that will justify the Government in appointing a Commission according to section 28 of the Municipal Act.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 30th, 1884.

114. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 30th July, says that it has been struck dumb at the behaviour of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. He is

determined to lay the axe at the root of self-government. He wants to interfere with the working of the Calcutta Municipality. He is fond of illegal ways. He says, the municipality cannot properly look to the sanitation of the town. It is a fact that the state of the native quarters is bad. But why is it so? Because more is spent for the European quarter than for the native. His Honor never attempts to do good. Let him reduce the expenditure on the European quarter and the native quarter will receive adequate improvements.

SAHACHAR,
July 30th, 1884.

115. The *Sahachar*, of the 30th July, says that the high officials of Government cannot possibly despatch all business satisfactorily from the hills. Consequently

they draw salaries without working during the months they spend in Simla. The Magistrates and other officials who work very hard in the plains do not lose their health. Why then should it be necessary for the chief officials to go to the hills for preserving their health? It is not easy to understand upon what principle inspecting officers like the Inspector-Generals of Police and Post Office, the Director-General of Telegraphs, the Director of Public Instruction, and the Commissary-General spend so many months of the year upon the hills. It is not possible for officials to administer the country successfully by drafting a few letters and by signing their names. The long list of offices which are removed to Simla when the Viceroy goes there cannot but astonish the people. Not only the Viceroy, but also all the Governors in the country go to the hills. The offices under them have also to be removed there. The exodus of the Governors is also very costly. Not only is a large sum spent upon the travelling of the officers, but allowances are given to them during the months they spend upon the hills. Thus vast sums of money are being spent for the luxury of the officials.

SAHACHAR.

116. The same paper makes the following observations upon the High

Justice Norris' opinion about the native newspapers.

Court's decision in the case of Mr. Webb:— We are astonished to hear that Justices Tottenham and Norris have confirmed the sentence passed upon Mr. Webb, and have seen no reason to enhance it. We are sorry that Justice Norris shewed very hostile feelings towards native newspapers at the time of his giving judgment in the above case. It appears from his words that he thinks that the native newspapers are as a rule worthless and contemptible. The entertainment of such feelings by a Judge of the High Court towards native newspapers is surely painful; but we hope that Justice Norris has heard that at the time when an agitation was raging throughout the country about the Salgram case, Major Baring wrote a letter to Baboo Kristodas Pal, the Editor of the *Hindu Patriot*, from Simla, earnestly entreating him to pacify the public. Had the native papers possessed no

power, the would-be Viceroy of India would never have thought so. For this reason we desire that Justice Norris should drive away from his mind his wrong impression about native newspapers.

SAHACHAR.

117. The same paper says that it is rumoured that the High Court has called for all the papers relating to Mr. Sgardelli's case.

SAHACHAR.

118. The same paper says that a review of the work done by Mr. Thompson during his stay of one month in Calcutta will convince one of his partiality for his countrymen.

PRABHATI
August 1st, 1884

119. The *Prabhāti*, of the 1st August, says that men undergo a strange metamorphosis upon being appointed Lieutenant-Governor. Mr. Thompson, who was before a friend of the natives, now tries to injure them in every way. For this reason he opposed the Ilbert Bill, and is throwing obstacles in the way of the introduction of the system of self-government. Under him the students are being oppressed and civilians are being encouraged in their oppression. The writer recommends now, as it has often done before, that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal should, like the Governors of Bombay and Madras, be brought directly from England.

120. The Dibrugarh correspondent of the *Assam News*, of the 23rd June, writes to say that a constable and an interpreter have been killed by some hill people at Sadiya. The attempt to arrest the murderers has proved fruitless. He also writes that a head-constable and two constables forcibly entered the house of one Maniram, whom they wanted to enlist as a coolie. Their entrance in the house polluted the cooked food of 18 persons, which had to be thrown away. The evils attending this system of impressment of labour are simply indescribable.

ASSAM NEWS,
June 23rd, 1884.

121. The same paper contains an article on the subject of "Royalty on trees, &c.," from which the following observations are extracted:—It will be seen

ASSAM NEWS.

Royalty on trees, &c.
from a perusal of the Chief Commissioner's Resolution that the rates of royalty enumerated therein are unusually high, and that a rate has been fixed for a class of trees which should properly be exempt from payment of any royalty. There is no denying the fact that in most cases the proceeds from the sale of these trees hardly cover their exorbitant rates of royalty. To say nothing of the ordinary and unreserved trees, most of the reserved trees, except the *sāl*, on which a royalty of Rs. 6 has been fixed, are worth but half the rates of royalty. It is obvious, then, that the royalty on the unreserved trees at the rate of Rs. 2 each can, under no circumstances, be considered reasonable. What are "poles or saplings" worth? In all probability they are generally bought to serve the purpose either of hedges or firewood; and yet the people have to pay an anna for each such plant. All this amounts evidently to saying that a ryot, however poor he may be, must pay the round sum of Rs. 10 for a hedge round a *halicha* of land, which is his all. And, again, he must pay a rupee more for a bundle of his firewood, no matter whether or not it falls short of the quantity that meets his morning and evening consumption. It is for Mr. Elliott, who is always a conscientious man, to consider whether what he means in his resolution is not likely to cause hardship to the people. He should consider whether it can be possible to put up with such heavy taxation under the wise government of civilized England. To the comparatively poor classes of natives, the light country boats have always been a very important source of their income—a source which is destined, it seems, to dry up under Mr. Elliott's good and careful government. There are few persons who can afford to have boats with such high rates of royalty in force; a very few indeed who can afford to

pay a royalty of Re. 1 per 100 of the burnt and dead bamboos in the forest. Mr. Elliott has cruelly and without consideration fixed the royalty on jati bamboos at Rs. 2 per 100. These bamboos apparently serve no other purpose than that of firewood and sometimes of roofs. Coming to *Bhalookas*, it will be seen that the bamboos grown in the forests are generally smaller than those grown in the villages, and as such they cannot fairly fill the place of the comparatively bigger ones grown on one's pottah land, and yet the people have to pay Rs. 3 for every 100 of these bamboos. From this it can be safely inferred that the Chief Commissioner is still ignorant of what the true condition of the Assamese is. With the exorbitant rates of annas 12 and annas 2 at which royalty is to be levied on every 100 bundles of *bet* (canes), and every maund of charcoal respectively, it will be almost impossible for the poor ryots to lead even a very simple life. Of all things requisite for life, the firewood is the most important. It is indispensable as much for the kitchen as for the trying winter. There may be one person out of a hundred who can afford to buy coal, wood, and oil. But the Chief Commissioner overlooks the fact, and what is worse rules that the ryots must pay Re. 1 per month and Rs. 9 per year for a pass to enable them to get firewood for a month or a year respectively. The rent which most of the people have to pay annually for the lands they hold does not exceed Rs. 5. To pay even this sum they have either to mortgage their wife's ornaments or to pawn such articles as *lottas* and *battis* (mugs and cups). The result is that their children often suffer from insufficient food. Is it possible for such men to pay Rs. 9 a year alone for their firewood? They must either leave their homes and get themselves settled upon the hills amongst the *abars* (savages), or sell their liberty by entering into agreement with rich foreigners in the province. That the people should be thrown into such distress under Mr. Elliott's Government is a matter of sorrow and surprise.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
July 10th, 1884.

122. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 10th July, approves of the ferry arrangements made by Mr. Gupta, Joint-Magistrate of Cuttack, which have been already noticed in the weekly report, and suggests that the same be adopted in all other districts of Orissa during the celebration of the Rathajatra festival.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

123. The same paper in another article finds fault with the Balasore Municipality for neglecting many lanes of the town that are in a very bad condition. It remarks that the number of Municipal Commissioners for that town is very large in comparison with the area of the town, which is very small. Were the members as regular in the inspection of roads as they are in attending the sittings of the Committee, a great deal of good would ensue.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

124. The same paper is very much satisfied with the condition of the people in Mayurbhunj, who are now passing their days happily under the wise and able administration of the manager, Mr. Wylly. The dispensary and the schools at Baripada are reported as doing their work very satisfactorily. What is more gratifying is the establishment of a girl's school, the first of its kind at Baripada under the patronage of Mrs. Wylly.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

125. The same paper joins its contemporaries in agitating about the question of Orissa canal oppression. It urges the authorities concerned to institute a systematic enquiry into the grievances of the tenants, who are said to be forced to pay the water-tax against their will.

UTKAL DARPAṆ,
July 12th, 1884.

126. Referring to the postponement of the preliminaries to the settlement work in Killa Ungul, the *Utkal Dipikā*, of the 12th July, approves this action of the

Settlement work in Killa Ungul.

Government, and states that the settlement question should be deferred till the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Bill. It further observes that the settlement proceedings of Government officers are so exacting that the longer they are deferred the better for the equanimity of the people nearly concerned.

127. The same paper joins its voice with that of its contemporaries in the Presidency in decrying the policy of Government of spending a great portion of their time in the hills at the sacrifice of the interests of the public in the plains. It looks upon the amount of expenditure incurred on account of such migration as sheer waste of public money.

UTKAL DARPAN.

128. The same paper approves of the suggestions made by the Orissa Association on the Self-Government Bill. Association of Cuttack in connection with the Local Self-Government Bill in response to the request of the Divisional Commissioner on the subject. They are the following:—

(1) That the representatives of the Local Boards in the District Boards need not be necessarily members of the former. There are many intelligent and able men in district towns, who may work very well as members of the District Boards, but who cannot for different reasons become members of the Local Boards. It is not advisable to exclude such men from taking an active part in the proceedings of the District Board.

(2) That the appointment of Government officers as members of District or Local Boards must not be made dependent on the sanction of Government, otherwise Government officers will lose their independence. Should any such officer find that the duties of the Local Board interfere in any way with his own work, he will resign the membership of the Board of his own accord.

(3) That all District and Local Boards should be allowed to elect their own Chairmen. Government need not fear that the members of such Boards will fail to elect competent men for their Chairmen. Should Government keep the appointment of Chairmen in their own hands how can the people believe that they are sincere in their determination to extend the system of local self-government in the Presidency.

(4) That the Orissa Association are unable to determine how Local Boards can take charge of education, medicine, vaccination, census-taking without sufficient funds to help them in the matter. The Association are of opinion that the total excise revenue, excepting the opium duties, should be made over to the District Boards, who will no doubt check the spread of drunkenness to a great extent.

129. While expressing its pleasure at the proposal of Government to establish two new telegraph offices at Bhuddruck and Chandbally, the *Utkal Darpan*, of the 15th July, observes that the station of Puri must not be left unconnected. Telegraphic communication with Puri is, in its opinion, very desirable.

UTKAL DARPAN.

130. Referring in another place to the policy of Government in distributing grant-in-aid allotments in the Education Department, the same paper observes that the grant-in-aid rules should not be applied to Orissa, which is a backward province, with the same rigour and stringency as are exercised in the more advanced provinces of the Bengal Presidency.

UTKAL DARPAN.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

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